DoD talks of its plans in meeting with CPA board. PAGE 7
Heavily Catholic Guam is torn by sex abuse allegations. PAGE 8

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Cargo boat sinks at Tinian harbor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 36-foot boat carrying 3,000-4,000 lbs of cargo from Saipan reportedly lost propulsion as it was entering the Tinian Harbor Monday afternoon and completely sank that night as it was towed away from the reef.

» Captain, crew rescued safely; no oil spoil occurred

The captain and one crewmember were safely rescued by a Jet ski driven by a police officer from the Tinian Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Unit. The two were not injured, according to Tinian DPS director Juan Santos.

In an interview, Santos said there was no oil spill but they laid out an oil containment boom yesterday afternoon for safety reasons.

Santos said that, according to their investigation, the boat sunk because of a big hole or damage to the aft behind the captain's deck caused by breakwater metals.

As of last night, the boat was still underwater.

The vessel is owned by Huangshun Corp., which owns Sunshine Garden Hotel and U Save Supermarket and other businesses on Saipan and Tin-

See BOAT on Page 4

Picture shows the boat docked at the Saipan dock on Monday morning prior to its final voyage. All goods on board were lost at sea.
RAY ALVAREZ

'It's a black eye for NMC'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Agnes McPhetres, founding president of the Northern Marianas College, expressed utter dismay upon hearing about the NMC Board of Regents' decision to offer the presidency of the CNMI's lone community college to former president Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

"To be honest with you, when a board terminates an individual because they broke a policy based on the investigation of the Attorney General's Office and then that individual turns around to sue the institution is ridiculous," said McPhetres right off the bat in an exclusive interview with

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Distinct classification for health workers pushed

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saying a health workforce shortage has always been a challenge for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., chief executive officer Esther L. Muña is hoping that foreign workers in the health industry would be given a different visa classification so it won't be affected by the CW-1 nonimmigrant cap.

"Health workforce shortage is a challenge throughout the nation and the CNMI is not immune to this shortage. In a booming economy, the CNMI needs to strengthen its health system and its workforce," said Muña in an email to *Saipan Tribune.*

"A separate classification of workers specifically for health is necessary to ensure CHCC is not competing with other industries in the CNMI for the same CW slot," she added.

Muña said they are worried since they have 33 workers that are under the CW program and with the fiscal year 2017 cap almost full, their applications might get denied.

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INSIDE

NATION
It could be days before the recorder from a train that crashed into a station is recovered.
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FOCUS
In his years as a TV boss on "The Apprentice," Donald Trump repeatedly demeaned women.
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LIFE & STYLE
Kim Kardashian West detailed her flashy Paris trip to the world.
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Local

Meteorologist: Soudelor a rare typhoon

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Typhoons that intensify as they are about to make landfall rarely happen, according to meteorologist Charles "Chip" Guard of the Weather Forecast Office in Guam. He was on Saipan for a media workshop yesterday at the CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management Office on Capital Hill.

Guard said that's what happened when Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan on Aug. 2 last year that caused major damage to homes and other infrastructures. "Occasionally, you will have storms that would intensify right at your backdoor."

"You are not going to be as accurate as you like and rarely does the Typhoon Warning Center miss the intensity of the storm by that much. But when they start to rapidly intensify right at your backdoor, that's where the problem are," he added.

Guard, a former Joint Typhoon Weather Center director in Hawaii, said it was a good thing that no one died despite Soudelor's intensity. "It was a welcome news that nobody was killed and only a few were hurt. In essence, the warning system works."

The same thing happened in Guam back in 1992, he said, when Typhoon Omar intensified as it neared landfall. "Typhoon Omar did the same thing, right in the middle of the night. That's the problem, a lot of times they happen in the middle of the night and catch people by surprise."

"A lot of people thought it [Soudelor] was so small. We didn't realize it was that small. Saipan and Tinian are always in a typhoon warning, they should have been prepared for every typhoon. No question about it, they haven't seen a strong typhoon like that since Kim in 1986."

He said that no matter the intensity of a typhoon, everyone should be prepared. "There's no question [Soudelor] was under forecast in terms of intensity. But it was forecast to be a typhoon. People should have been prepared for a typhoon."

Guard added that they expect several more storms to pass by the Marianas until December, reminding people to be always prepared. "You have to keep in mind, this is one of the few places in the world where you can have a typhoon any time of the year. We are in a beautiful place but we also have to live with [typhoons]."

Although storm surges also happen here in the Marianas, it is not like that in the mainland. "Sure we also get storm surges but not like in the States where it is more on wave action. Here on Saipan, the east side of the island comes rapidly."

"Kagman is high enough not to experience it. The west side like in Tanapag, San Roque, and San Antonio have a higher risk. Winds can still regenerate the waves in the lagoon. That's why hotels are set back to prevent storm surges but you can still get inundation and coastal flooding."

Quitugua wants MVA to address tourism issues

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) is hoping the Marianas Visitors Authority could address some key tourism issues, especially at the Paseo de Marianas and its surrounding areas in Garapan. PDM is in Garapan where most hotels, restaurants, and shops that are frequented by foreign visitors is located.

What the Legislature, especially the Senate, wants MVA to do is to help ease the flow of cars driven by tourists in the area and parking that's causing gridlocks, especially after work rush hours, Quitugua said.

Parking during weekends has also become a problem, he said, with most of the establishments not having enough space to accommodate vehicles, resulting in cars lining the narrow roads where double parking can sometimes be seen.

"I really would like for the roads around Paseo de Marianas to be addressed. The [Department of Public Works] already has a blueprint for that. And also to alleviate the parking and traffic congestion around that area," said Quitugua.

He said it would be a big help to everyone who regularly visits the area if the con-

See QUITUGUA on Page 4

Grace Christian Academy's October 2016 PGFC winners have their picture taken at their library.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GCA congratulates its October PGFC winners

The administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy students would like to extend their congratulations to the winners and everyone who participated in the first Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition this school year at Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School last Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016. PGFC competition encourages public and private school students to participate in and become proficient in the forensic arts: reading, public speaking, and interpretations.

K-2 DIVISION

Dramatic Interpretation A
Breanna May Lopez, 1st place
Shewoo Kim, 3rd place

Humorous Interpretation A
Hans Gabriel Ordas, 1st place

Impromptu Speaking A
Breanna May Lopez, 3rd place

Impromptu Speaking B
Hans Gabriel Ordas, 1st place
Jonathan Rosh Vivero, 2nd place

Impromptu Speaking C
Zachary Luke Nunag, 1st place
Llyanna Jaira Manalang, 3rd place
Selena Chu Han Sun, 4th place

Readers Forum A
Aqua Ruo Xuan, 5th place

Readers Forum B
Justin Yao Ma, 2nd place

Readers Forum Masters B
Clarisse Angelique Marzan, 4th place

3-5 DIVISION

Dramatic Interpretation A
Tae Hee Kim, 1st place

Dramatic Interpretation B
Jennifer Woo, 2nd place
William Matthew Cano, 4th place

Humorous Interpretation A
Moira Grace Ernest, 3rd place

Impromptu Speaking A
Moira Grace Ernest, 2nd place
Nestor Ablog Jr., 3rd place

Impromptu Speaking B
Serim Woo, 1st place
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 3rd place

Readers Forum A
Ashley Ji Hye Jeon, 1st place
Serim Woo, 2nd place
Rafael Busby, 3rd place

Readers Forum C
Angieleysha Marie Punzalan, 2nd place
Nestor Ablog Jr., 4th place
Azriel Fatialofa, 5th place

Readers Forum D
Seungeun Olivia Ha, 5th place

Readers Forum Masters A
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st place
Kei Lizama, 5th place

Readers Forum Masters B
Tae Hee Kim, 2nd place
Jennifer Woo, 5th place

Choral Speaking A
Seungeun Olivia Ha, 5th place
Min Seok Alex Kim, 5th place
Jessica Yao Ma, 5th place

Teacher/Coach

K5 Teacher, Sheryl Joy Prieto
1st Grade Teacher, Courtney Poppinga
2nd Grade Teacher, Miriam Dilse
3rd Grade Teacher, Rosanna Lopez
4th Grade Teacher, Amanda Haas
5th Grade Teacher, Leah Garfil
PGFC Coordinator, Esther Manzano
Judges/Volunteers, Amanda Haas, Courtney Poppinga, Marilyn Aldan, Laila Portuguez, Gloria Cabug, Aaron Cabug, Ellaizah Gail Manalang ***(PR)***

Man allegedly stole ex-girlfriend's laptop

A 23-year-old man was arrested yesterday morning in As Lito for allegedly stealing a laptop belonging to his former girlfriend and pawning it at a shop.

Atanacio Gonzaga Taitingfong was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing on the charge of theft. His bail was set at $10,000 cash; preliminary hearing is on Oct. 13 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Taitingfong. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police detective Daniel T. Joab stated in his report that the victim went to the Department of Public Safety last Sept. 14 to complain against Taitingfong.

Joab said that during his interview last Sept. 27, the victim stated that when she arrived home in Kagman III from school last June 10 she noticed that her laptop was missing.

That same day, the victim's siblings told her that earlier that day, Taitingfong picked them up from school and they headed straight to a pawnshop in San Vicente. Taitingfong got down from the car and entered the shop.

The victim said she confronted Taitingfong about the laptop and he promised he would soon return it to her.

The victim said Taitingfong informed her mother that he pawned the laptop for $140. The victim bought the black ASUS laptop for $700.

Last Sept. 28, police recovered from the shop the laptop and the invoice that indicated Taitingfong's name. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Triple J Motors' 'On the Go' back on the road

Triple J recently turned over a new "On the Go" vehicle to Sorensen Media Group. It will be giving real time traffic updates around the island and broadcasting on Power 99.

"It's great to keep our partnership going with Triple J Motors. We believe that keeping our listeners updated on the latest traffic conditions helps in keeping drivers and roads safe," said James Nelson, general manager (Saipan operations), of Sorensen Media Group.

Triple J Motors Saipan general manager Randy Steele said, "We love working with the folks at Sorensen and Power 99 to bring all our customers the latest traffic reports. The Outlander SE is a great fit for their needs with seven seats and convenient Bluetooth hands-free communication. The Outlander also has amazing safety features like seven airbags and four-wheel, anti-lock brakes as well as a back-up camera with LCD monitoring. For those rainy season roads, it's equipped with 18" wheels so you never miss a traffic report. With 25 miles to the gallon it has a low environmental impact to keep our Saipan air fresh."

Tune into the On the Go Traffic Reports every weekday morning and afternoons on Power 99. The "On the Go" traffic reports have been a mainstay of Power 99 since the station began operations in 1991, with Triple J Motors as the exclusive automobile dealer sponsor. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Triple J Motors Saipan general manager Randy Steele, left, hands the keys to a newly tricked out 2016 Outlander SE to James Nelson, general manager (Saipan operations), of Sorensen Media Group.

DEQ is awarded $250K grant

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Division of Environmental Quality has been awarded a pollution prevention grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of $250,000. Award notification was made on Aug. 18, 2016.

This is a two-year competitive grant that supports state programs or projects that significantly reduce the environmental impacts of local businesses.

BECQ's intention with the grant will be to adopt innovative environmental strategies or solutions that can measurably reduce pollution from air, water and/or land. Funding from this grant will allow BECQ to create a guidance document for developers that establishes a basis for construction and operation requirements within conditions of BECQ's permitting process.

With the CNMI's current growth in commercial development and increasing waste management challenges, now is a critical time to identify the need for green building designs and environmentally friendly business practices and incorporate them into our permitting process. All this can be attained while improving the quality, cost, and performance of developments and most importantly reducing anthropogenic impacts to the sensitive island ecosystem. ***(BECQ)***

Counsel for Rota cop facing violence charges relieved

The Office of the Public Defender was relieved on Monday as court-appointed counsel for Rota police officer George A. Barcinas, who is facing domestic violence charges.

This developed as attorney Joaquin DLG Torres entered on Monday afternoon his appearance as Barcinas' counsel of record.

Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig appeared as then-counsel for Barcinas. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

With the hiring of Torres as new counsel for Barcinas, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho vacated the bench trial of Barcinas currently set for Oct. 7 at the Rota Superior Court.

Camacho reset the bench trial to Dec. 19, 2016, at the Rota Superior Court.

Camacho, however, ordered the parties to appear at the Rota Superior Court on Friday at 8:30am for a hearing on Barcinas' motion to suppress statement.

The Office of the Attorney General alleged that on June 5, 2015, on Rota, Barcinas pinned his wife to the ground and placed her in a headlock. He allegedly grabbed his wife's keys from her car's ignition against her will, preventing her from leaving his property.

Barcinas also allegedly used physical force to struggle with and prevent the victim from calling law enforcement after she informed him of her intention to do so.

The government charged the 35-year-old Barcinas with assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a domestic violence report. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man allegedly punches neighbor over clogged drainage

A man allegedly choked and repeatedly punched his neighbor over a clogged drainage in their shower room in central Garapan on Saturday afternoon.

The victim sustained bruises and dried blood under the left eye. He suffered bruises on the forehead and under the right eye, police said.

Mohammad Parvez Barpery, 46, an employee of a recycling center, was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace. His bail was set at $5,000 cash; preliminary hearing is on Oct. 12 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for the defendant. Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda appeared for the government.

Police detective John Anthony Hofschneider stated in his report that two police officers were dispatched to a residence in central Garapan on Saturday afternoon after the victim called for police's help.

Barpery allegedly strangled the victim then punched him many times in the face. Barpery only stopped the beating when his wife and brother-in-law pacified him.

The victim locked his bedroom and called the police. Two officers arrived and arrested the suspect.

In May 2014, a Superior Court jury acquitted Barpery of charges that he raped a 17-year-old girl in front of his girlfriend inside a motel in San Jose in 2013.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho, who presided over the trial and decided on the misdemeanor charge, also found Barpery not guilty of disturbing the peace. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday to my lovely sister, Norma N. Tagabuel. God bless and may you have many more birthdays to come. Love you, Kom!

QUITUGUA

From Page 2

cerns are addressed. "Businesses, tourists, and other people who frequent the area would really be happy and relieved. But right now, I don't know what the administration is going to do."

DPW could have received an additional $250,000 from MVA funds to redesign and reconstruct some of the roads in the Garapan tourist district and PDM, particularly Hotel Street, to ease parking and traffic congestion.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres vetoed it before signing the budget bill, House Bill 19-196 SS1, keeping MVA's budget untouched. He said that redirecting some of MVA's funds would affect their daily operations, especially with marketing and promoting the CNMI in other countries.

Quitugua said that parking meters in the street adjacent to Fiesta Resort & Spa should also be used, with the money another source of income for the CNMI. "I think it is under the jurisdiction of DPW and [the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority]."

He also believes the MVA has more to offer in terms of increasing tourists arrivals here in the CNMI. "The Guam Visitors Authority has an annual budget of $28 million and is bringing in over one million tourists a year. In the CNMI we try to increase visitors arrival, I think there is more for MVA could do to increase that."

However, safety is also becoming an issue, with several businesses in Garapan complaining that it is no longer safe to park near their establishments. "Tourists, when they come here, they want a clean and safe environment. That is exactly what MVA could do, to promote cleanliness and safety.

"The area around PDM, everybody is talking about how unsafe it is, especially for tourists. The businesses around that area are saying we are losing customers because it is not safe to park and there's no place to park. This body is very cognizant of that area for tourists, including on island customers."

Quitugua said the Senate also adopted a resolution asking DPW and the Department of Public Safety to look at the roads around PDM to see what they could do to ensure its safety, improve its conditions, and to have adequate parking spaces.

He added that the MVA should also revisit some of their programs and think of new ones. "[They] should also revisit some of the programs that they have. Some are more than 20 years [old] now, and look at how many have been participating. What are the other destinations that they wanted to improve and their plans five or 10 years from now?"

The MVA's funds are from the hotel occupancy tax amounting to $14,894,958 a year, with an additional $176,000 from the alcohol container tax, for a total of $15,070,958.

FREE ALARMS

A Department of Fire Emergency Medical Services officer drills holes to install free smoke detectors at the home of Rita Villagomez in Koblerville last Oct. 1. The free smoke detectors were courtesy of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter and kicked off the celebration of National Fire Prevention Month.

ERWIN ENCINARES

NMC

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune. "For the same board, some of them the same members that terminated the individual, hiring the same person back is even more ridiculous."

What baffles McPhetres is that Fernandez reapplied for the position where she got terminated from, and even questions the NMC Board of Regent's decision making. "For Carmen to apply after such a situation receiving compensation from the institution, fighting with the institution, I thought that was ridiculous. What I find even more ridiculous is the board itself, to hire someone who actually defied them by suing them. I don't know who is more crazy: Carmen or the NMC board."

McPhetres said that appointing Fernandez as NMC president once again would be a contradiction of what the NMC board stands for. "One of the major roles of the board is to select a CEO. The board members, when they are appointed, during the hearing, they make at least a statement that the reason for them to accept the job is to protect the interest of higher education. I personally don't think that it is the right choice to appoint an individual who defied the board by breaking policy," she explained.

Questioning the NMC board's ability to do background checks, McPhetres said the NMC regents are to blame. "I don't know who applied, but I'm sure there are [other] people who are qualified. One other thing, the board did not actually do their research because if you're looking for the best candidate, you have to look at where they came from, interview people that were with her, interview the institution where she was president, and how she was there. When she was a senator of Guam, they should be interviewing the people that worked with her. Did the board do that? Probably not, so I don't blame Carmen. I blame the Board of Regents for not doing their fiduciary responsibility, and they owe the people of the CNMI."

McPhetres reiterated that Fernandez's past relationship with the board is not something to turn a blind eye at, even if NMC is in dire need of a president, and also stated that rehiring Fernandez would be like shooting oneself in the foot. "She defied the board by breaking policy. The board turned around and hired a person who broke their policy. How could she uphold the policy of the board when she has proven to have no respect for the policies of the board? Is that good for accreditation? I don't think so. I think it's a black eye for NMC to have a president who has an issue with the college itself."

Former representative Stanley Torres also did not mince words. "I don't know what is happening with the Board of Regents," he said. Torres shared the same points as McPhetres.

Despite the ruckus, Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) wants to be optimistic. "I trust that the presidential search committee has been through the screening process, have met with the applicant, and have the best candidate, so I have confidence [for] board to come up with the right person that we need," she said. "I always like to think positive. Yes, there would be bumps along the way and we expect challenges to come up, but I think we should stay positive and move on."

Ogumoro said the college should continue with its programs so that they remain strong for the benefit of the people and students in particular.

WORKERS

From Page 1

"CHCC is very concerned. CHCC has 33 CW applications—that [we] can only submit after January 2017—that are at risk of getting rejected because of the cap," she said

She said the 33 are for positions that require specialized skills, education, and training that would be hard to be filled from the current CNMI labor force. "[These are positions] that the CNMI currently does not adequately have to replace."

Based on USCIS data released last Sept. 20, there are 4,661 CW-1 applicants that have been approved while another 5,595 applications are pending approval, for a total of 10,256, leaving 2,742 slots left to be filled for fiscal 2017.

The USCIS in August granted a 240-day extension to employees whose CW-1 visas are about to expire. This means an employee whose CW-1 visa that was previously approved but had already expired can still work or stay for the next eight months while their papers are being processed again.

Muña said two bills currently in U.S. Congress could help the CNMI, with Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) House Resolution 5888 one of them. "There are pending legislation in the U.S. Congress that can help our current situation."

Sablan's bill proposes to increase the CW cap to 18,000 and extend the program to 2029 while Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) filed HR 4909 that proposes an amendment on the H2B visa in order to include health care workers in the CNMI's southern island neighbor.

Muña said that while they wait for the result of both bills, they are also finding ways to solve their problem. "While the outcome of these legislation are still uncertain, CHCC is stepping up their efforts to address this issue internally."

"Our priority is to ensure that the pipeline of U.S. health workers continue by continuing to support [the Northern Marianas College] and other colleges with students from the CNMI as well as maintain our current hardworking workforce.

"We are moving forward by reevaluating our [human resources] policies and our services and identifying those that already qualify for the H1B visa. Our goal is to ensure that our services will still be available and accessible to the people of the CNMI," she said.

BOAT

From Page 1

ian, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Santos said divers confirmed that the boat has no hazardous or pollutant cargo.

Santos said the cargo manifest shows that the boat had three pallets of frozen goods, soda, and canned goods.

Santos said that on Monday at 3pm they received a 911 call about a boat that had gone aground the reef so he dispatched a Boating Safety officer aboard a Jet ski to rescue the captain and crew.

The officer first rescued the captain and then the crewmember, both of them taken to Kammer Beach, the closest shore.

At Kammer Beach, medics examined the two, who were found not injured.

Santos said investigation showed that as the boat was approaching the Tinian Harbor's entrance at Buoy No. 6, the vessel lost propulsion but the engine was fine.

The boat then drifted and ran aground on top of the reef as it was low tide.

At 9pm a company that was hired to tow the boat pushed the vessel into the breakwater or to deeper water away from the reef.

When they finally towed the boat, they discovered a hole behind the captain's deck.

"From there, they were trying to tow as fast as they can. I think it was taking on too much water so it sunk," Santos said.

He said the boat sunk completely within the vicinity of the harbor toward the sandy area at 11:16pm.

He said they made a salvage plan that will be implemented today, Wednesday.

Saipan DPS Boating Safety officers also responded along with BECQ and Fish and Wildlife to assist Tinian DPS officers, the Tinian Commonwealth Ports Authority police, Fish and Wildlife, and the Mayor's Office. The U.S. Coast Guard also came.

An assessment is still being conducted to determine if there was damage to the coral.

Bureau closes 2 restaurants in Sept.

The Bureau of Environmental Health conducted sanitary inspections during the month of September and closed down the following retails, eating and drinking establishments for serious violations of health and sanitation standards. Some of these establishments have since reopened after addressing the bureau's concerns. Café De Park in Garapan was closed down on Sep.20 and it reopened on Sept. 22. Lin De Xuan Restaurant in Garapan was closed down on Sept. 26.

Other restaurants had the following grades:

Grade "A"

1. PSS Marianas High School, Susupe
2. PSS Southern High School, Koblerville
3. PSS Kagman Elementary School, Kagman
4. Arianne Fish Mart, Garapan
5. Green Leaves Store, Chalan Piao
6. New Garapan Market, Garapan
7. Vi-Lyn's BBQ Stand, Garapan
8. Mobile Service Station, Koblerville
9. Mobile Service Station Middle Road, Garapan
10. Jang Gun Restaurant, Garapan
11. Guangzhon Restaurant KTV, Garapan
12. Kanoa Resort (all outlets), Susupe
13. NIC Health Retail, Garapan
14. La Trattoria, Capital Hill
15. Puerto Rico Takeout Bento, Puerto Rico
16. Stella Natural Foods, Chalan Kanoa
17. Shell Koblerville, Koblerville
18. Swip Water Manufacture, Sadog Tasi
19. C&C Cosmetic Retail, Garapan
20. Coffee and Bar Sands, Garapan
21. Marianas Baptist Academy School, Dandan
22. New ABCD Market, Koblerville
23. Twin's Market, Dandan
24. DFS Galleria, Susupe
25. Subway Restaurant, Gualo Rai
27. Subway Foremost Scoop, Gualo Rai
28. Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC), Navy Hill
29. Mobile Service Station, Chalan Kiya
30. REQ Day and Night Childcare Center, Navy Hill
31. I Shop Saipan Gift Shop, Susupe
32. Mumcy's Catering, Chalan Kanoa
33. I Hop, Garapan
34. New Kagman Market & Butcher, Kagman
37. Flame Tree Lounge Bar, San Jose
38. Ace Hardware Retail, San Vicente
39. 5 Sisters Ent. Retail, Dandan
40. Daystar Fish Store, Chalan Laulau

GRADE "B"

1. GrandVrio Hotel (Bakery), Garapan
2. GrandVrio Hotel Airi Restaurant, Garapan
3. GrandVrio Hotel Tropicana Restaurant, Garapan

GRADE "C"

1. GrandVrio Dolphin Restaurant, Garapan

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DPH Dental Clinic suspends walk-in visits

This is to inform the public that as of Sept. 26, 2016, the Public Health Dental Clinic is suspending all emergency and walk-in dental visits until after the week of Oct. 17, 2016. For further information, you can contact the Public Health Dental Clinic Office at 236-8369 or 8744. ***(PR)***

National speaker to address SHRM meeting today

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will be holding a membership meeting on Oct. 5, 2016, from 11:30am to 2:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's. All members of the community are invited to attend. SHRM members are urged to come out and greet our regional director, Dianna Gould, SHRM-SCP, CAE. Currently she is the field services director for the Pacific West Region for the SHRM. Gould's topic at the October meeting will be "Effective Workplace Communication: Promoting Success through a Culture of Trust and Belief." The attendance fee is $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-SHRM members. Please register with Penny Jones by e-mail at penny.jones@hyattsaipan.com **or contact Penny or** Lany by telephone at 323-5867 or 323-5867. Seats are limited, but still available.. ***(SHRM)***

Chamber meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting at Charley's (Pacific Island Club) today, Oct. 5. The luncheon will begin at 11:30am with the meeting commencing at noon. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is scheduled to speak regarding an update on the 902 talks and the employment issues facing the islands. Alex Sablan from TanHoldings will also speak on behalf of the Strategic Economic Development Council Workforce Subcommittee regarding a new nonprofit organization that is being formed to assist in consulting for passage of strategic legislation to ease the workforce issue. ***(SCC)***

Marianas Veterans History Project workshops

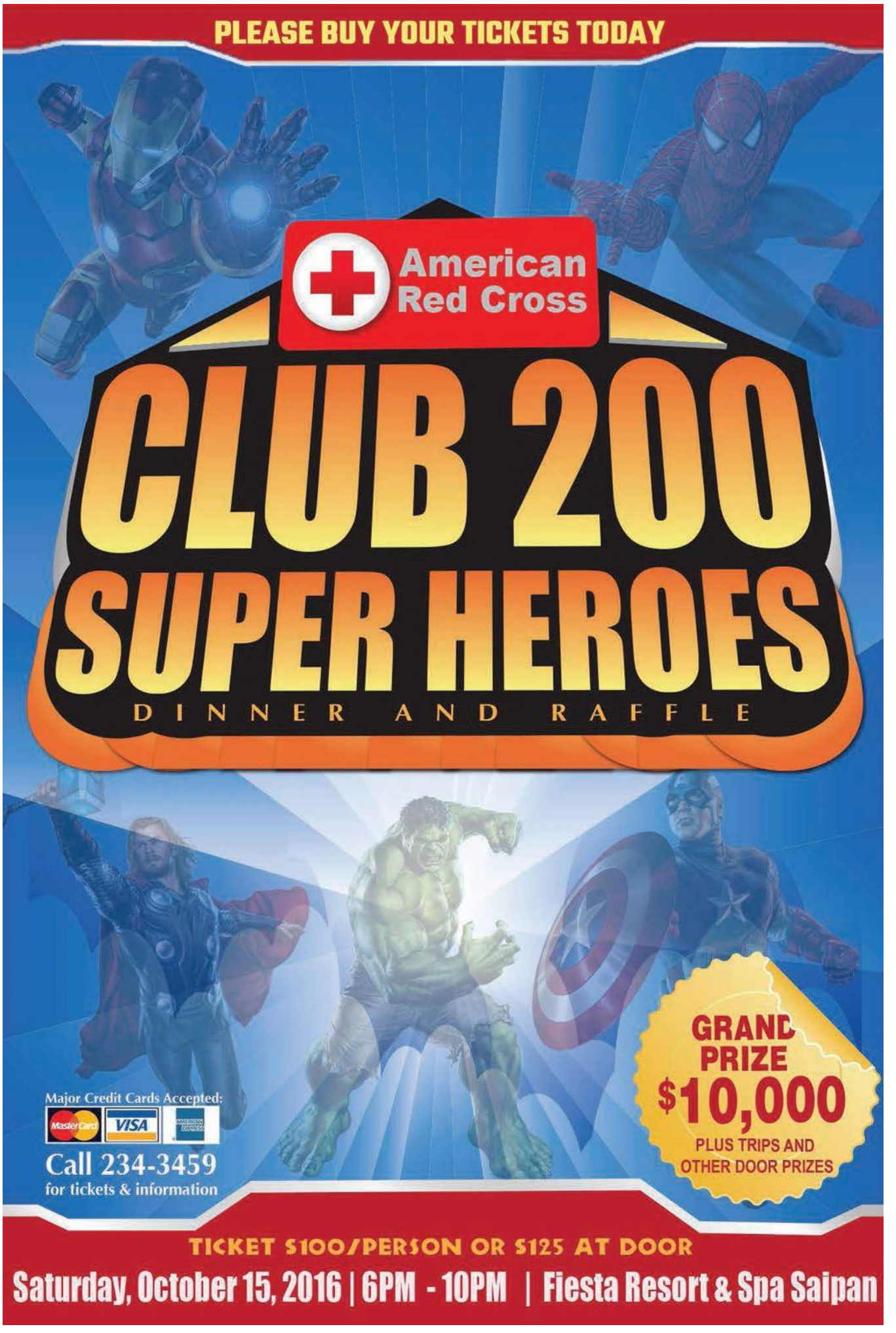
Learn how to collect and contribute the stories of Marianas veterans to the Library of Congress in workshops this week with oral historian Dr. Luisa Del Guidice of the American Folklore Society. The first workshop started yesterday on Tinian. The second workshop will be today, Oct. 5, on Rota at the NMC instructional site, from 10am to 12pm. The third workshop will be on Saipan this Saturday, Oct. 8, 10am to 12pm at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center. All workshops are free and open to the public. Register online at https://vhp-community-workshops-marianas.eventbrite.coma or contact the Office of Delegate Gregorio Sablan at 323-2647 or Kilili@mail.house.gov. ***(PR)***

Family grief support group to meet tomorrow

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting tomorrow Oct. 6, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai. For more information, email tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionate-friends.org. ***(PR)***

Half-staff on Friday to honor fire personnel

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has called upon all organizations to lower the U.S. and CNMI flags to half-staff on Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 in recognition of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of fire and emergency services personnel. ***(PR)***



Judge dismisses lawsuit vs Social Security Administration

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has dismissed a lawsuit against Social Security Administration acting Commissioner Carolyn W. Colvin over alleged improper calculation of retirement insurance benefits, overcharging for Medicare, and SSA delays in processing various claims.

In an order on Friday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Colvin's motion to dismiss the case for lack of jurisdiction since John A. Angello has not exhausted all administrative remedies.

Manglona denied Angello's motion to stay proceedings. She directed the court's clerk to close the case.

The judge said federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction and may hear a case only if authorized to do so by the Constitution and statute.

Manglona said the district court lacks jurisdiction to review SSA nonfinal actions. Therefore, the judge pointed out, the court cannot stay Angello's case while keeping a watchful eye on administrative proceedings.

Manglona said the U.S. government, counsel for Colvin, is correct that another remedy—administrative appeal—is available to Angello, but it is hardly an adequate one if it takes forever.

In this instance, the judge said, the only delay that matters is delay in the pending administrative appeal of the reconsideration decision.

So far, Manglona said, the appeal has been pending only three months.

Manglona said mandamus is an extraordinary remedy, and it is not called for in these circumstances.

Manglona said one can understand Angello's expectation that if the agency is warning him it make take months to schedule his hearing, it will take that long and more.

"But that has not happened yet," the judge said.

Manglona said hopefully, the U.S. government's counsel will continue to offer their assistance to Angello in communicating with the Hearing Office, and he will get a hearing within a reasonable time, taking into account that his is not the only review the Hearing Office has to schedule.

In Colvin's motion to dismiss, the U.S. government updated the court on the progress of Angello's claims through SSA's administrative procedures.

In her declaration to support the motion to dismiss, SSA's Honolulu District manager Christina Seu acknowledged that there had been a delay owing to an administrative error.

Sheu affirmed that on March 21, 2016, Treasury direct-deposited $4,906.30 in retroactive retirement insurance benefits into Angello's savings account.

Sheu further affirmed that other requests for administrative reconsideration by Angello had been consolidated and that a decision was pending.

In response to the motion to dismiss, Angello filed a motion for the court's intervention and a motion to stay proceedings.

Angello declared a "partial victory" and asserted a right to mandamus relief from SSA's delays.

The U.S. government replied that mandatory relief is unavailable because the timing of administrative adjudication of SSA claims is discretionary and the setting of deadlines had been rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In granting the motion to dismiss, Manglona said in the course of oral argument by the parties last June 16, it became clear that Angello's administrative remedies have not been exhausted and that under the law, the court lacks jurisdiction to review SSA's nonfinal decisions.

Manglona said on the record, the assistant U.S. attorney encouraged Angello to remain in contact with her office and stated her willingness to serve as a liaison on the progress of his administrative case.

Manglona said that last June 23, the U.S. government filed a copy of SSA's notice for reconsideration of Angello's claim for benefits.

The judge said that in the notice, dated June 16, 2016, the agency affirmed that Angello was already receiving the highest benefit possible, and informed him that if he disagrees with the decision, he has 60 days in which to request a hearing before an administrative law judge.

Last June 30, Angello submitted such a request to SSA.

Last Sept. 9, Angello filed a copy of a letter dated Aug. 30 which he had received from the Hearing Office Director of the SSA's Office of Disability Adjudication and Review in Honolulu.

The form letter explains the hearing process in considerable detail.

In the request for judicial notice, Angello complains that it took the agency two months to tell him it may take several more months before he gets a hearing.

GPPC, INC. Job Opening:

Civil Engineering Technicians (3) $6.60 - 10.25/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2- years experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Mechanical Engineering Technicians (02) $6.60 - 7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Electrical Engineering Technicians (01) $6.60 - 7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Electrical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Electrical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Machinist (01) $6.60 - 7.00/hour
Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify or repair. Must be a high graduate or minimum 5year's experience as a Machinist.

Sales Person (2) $6.55 - 6.60/hour
Must be a high/ college graduate or minimum 2-5year's experience as a Sales Person. Sell mdse, such as light and heavy vehicles, motor vehicles parts, H. E. parts, appliances, to consumers. Describe mdse and explain use, operation.

Auto Body Repairer (06) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 2 years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames.

Truck Driver (02) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2-5 years experiences as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation

Plumber (06) $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experienced as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters.

Painter (05) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles,buses,trucks,trains,boats,airplanes ad etc.

Carpenter (20) $6.60 - $7:50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Carpenter, With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors.

Automobile Electrician (03) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

Electrician (10) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (20) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

Heavy Equipment Operator (20) $6.10 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

Mason (20) $6.60– 7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 3 years experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints.

Plumber (6) $6.60-7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Plumber. With knowledge how to assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems.

Welder (20) $6.6.60-$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

Architectural Drafter Technician (02) $6.60-7.50/hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

Tower Crane Operator (02) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 2 years work related experience. Operate mechanical boom and cable or tower and cable equipment to lift and move materials, machines or products in many directions. Determine load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

Rigger (02) $6.55-6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with 2 years work experience on related field. Set up or repair rigging for construction projects, manufacturing plants, logging yards, ships and shipyards, or for the entertainment industry. Employee must have his/her transportation to and from various job sites. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at GPPC,INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Closing Date: October 12, 2016

APEX BUILDERS, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Machinist - $6.60-$7.00/hour
Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify or repair. Must be a high graduate or minimum 5year's experience as a Machinist.

(2) Sales Person - $6.55- $6.60 per hour
Must be a high/ college graduate or minimum 2-5year's experience as a Sales Person. Sell merchandise, such as light and heavy vehicles, motor vehicles parts, H. E. parts, appliances, to consumers. Describe merchandise and explain use, operation.

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(06) Plumber $6.55 - $7.50/hour
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Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes ad etc.

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Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Carpenter. With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors.

(03) Automobile Electrician $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

(16) Electrician $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

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Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

(20) Mason $6.60– 7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 3 years experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints.

(6) Plumber $6.60-7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Plumber. With knowledge how to assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems.

(20) Welder $6.6.60-$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

(02) Diesel Mechanic $6.6.60-$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Diesel Mechanic. To diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul buses and trucks or maintain and repair any type of diesel engines. Includes mechanics working primarily with automobile or marine diesel.

(02) Architectural Drafter Technician $6.60-7.50 hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

Salary deduction: FICA (SS & Medicare) and CNMI Local tax (chapter 2)

Benefits: Workmen's compensation insurance.

Salaries will commensurate to experience and qualifications.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time.
Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builder's Inc. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required.
Apex Builder's Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Closing Date: October 12, 2016

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992, hereby give Official Notice that an **Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for **October 7, 2016, Friday**, at **10:00 a.m.**, at the **CNMI Board of Parole Office Conference Room, Building No.: 1216, at Capitol Hill, Saipan.** The following items are included in the agenda:

Board of Parole Executive Meeting Agenda

I. **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to order
   2. Roll call
   3. Presence of Quorum
II. **Consent Items**
   1. Adoption of Agenda
   2. Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – NONE
III. **New Business**
   1. Approval of Employment of Vincent S. Attao, Chief Parole Officer
   2. Review and Concurrence of Notices of Determinations
   3. Review and Concurrence of Approved Hearing Eligibility Lists
      a. October 2016
      b. November 2016
   4. Schedule and Approval of Parole Hearing dates
      a. October 2016
      b. November 2016
IV. **Old Business**
   1. None
V. **Miscellaneous**
   1. Schedule and Approval of next Executive Meeting
VI. **Adjournment**

For any additional information about the meeting, please call the Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 to 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho, Chairman, Board of Parole — 10/3/2016 Date

DoD talks of its plans in meeting with CPA board

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

United States Pacific Command Deputy Commander Lt. Gen. Anthony G. Crutchfield said last week's meeting with the CNMI government and some board members of the Commonwealth Ports Authority was to discuss what the U.S. Department of Defense's would need from the CNMI as a training area.

Crutchfield said they also wanted to give a clear understanding of their plans. "The main goal was to discuss the requirements that the DoD and PacCom has for the Tinian airfield. Like the types of requirements like parking space, refueling stations, and maintenance hangers for our aircraft."

"We just want to lay out to the CPA what requirements are we are asking for to give them a clear understanding of what the DoD's plans would be. The [Environmental Impact Study] for the divert airfield is complete. We expect to have a record of decision within 30 days."

Crutchfield said the record of decision was signed last Sept. 23. "We expect a record of decision of the U.S. Air Force for the divert airfield at the end of [October]. We're just waiting for it, for the Tinian north option."

Torres said they remain in constant dialogue with the DoD and the military. "We've been having these kinds of dialogues, topics like the live-fire [training] and environment. Gen. Crutchfield was here to update us on what's going on. We continue with the dialogue."

"They have already chosen that [divert airfield] and there's a 30-day waiting period. We will wait if there's a record of decision. But again, at the end of the day we would like our concerns to be addressed."

Crutchfield also joined Torres and both panels—CNMI and federal government—in last Friday's trip to Pagan, which is part of the ongoing 902 talks. The U.S. Air Force lent their V-22 Osprey, a vertical takeoff and landing aircraft, as a mode of transportation to Pagan.

The Osprey was the same aircraft used in providing relief and transporting equipment after Typhoon Soudelor.

Torres, in a separate interview last Thursday, said they are wrapping up the 902 talks in order to have a report handed to President Barrack Obama before his term ends on Jan. 20, 2017.

Department of Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo was part of the CNMI panel where she showed the proposed homestead program of the CNMI government. Torres last month instructed Teregeyo to move ahead with the homestead program that needs to be afforded to locals up north.

Crutchfield, meanwhile, joined the trip as a representative of the PacComm, grabbing the opportunity to show the 902 panels what their plans are on Pagan. The DoD and the military plans to build a live-fire training facility in one of the CNMI's northernmost islands.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-024

ROOF AND WALL REPAIR OF OLD LEGISLATURE/4-H BLDG.

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for **Roof and Wall Repair of Old Legislature/4-H Bldg.** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **September 28, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standards

- ***Gratuities.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor.
- ***Kickbacks.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order.
- ***Contingent fees.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 14, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 21, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-024"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 03, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 03, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 03, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 15, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 16, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on November 03, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Forty Five **(45) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-001

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF NEW HIGH TUNNEL GREENHOUSE ECLOSURES FOR DLNR, DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE KAGMAN II, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Supply and Delivery of New High Tunnel Greenhouse Enclosures for DLNR, Division of Agriculture Kagman, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 5, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

Breach of Ethical Standard

- ***Gratuities.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor.
- ***Kickbacks.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order.
- ***Contingent fees.*** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 25, 2016, 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 7, 2016** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 17, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 17, 2016,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 17, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 28, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 30, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on November 17, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Heavily Catholic Guam is torn by sex abuse allegations

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)— Atop a lofty hill overlooking the ocean in the U.S. territory of Guam, a residence for the governor and a ceremonial one for the archbishop sit together, a decades-old symbol of their seemingly equal power on an island where nearly everyone is Roman Catholic.

Catholicism is woven deeply into the Spanish-influenced culture of this land of 165,000 people. Families consider it a blessing to be closely associated with priests, and having a son grow up to be a priest or a daughter become a nun is a source of pride.

That's why allegations that the island's archbishop molested altar boys decades ago have divided churchgoers and put the governor in a difficult spot politically.

When the Legislature unanimously sent him a bill eliminating the two-year statute of limitations for suing over sexual abuse, priests worked feverishly to stave it off, telling parishioners at Sunday Mass at the island's 26 churches that the measure would bankrupt the church.

Gov. Eddie Calvo, a Catholic, had to think hard about what to do.

"You could see right away that that the man was conflicted," said Rev. Francis X. Hezel, an assistant pastor at Santa Barbara Catholic Church in Dededo. "He is, after all, the chief executive of an island that's 80 percent Catholic."

In the end, despite petitions bearing thousands of signatures, Calvo signed it into law last month, opening the church up to potentially millions in liability.

"I am saddened that even a single injustice had to happen in order to make this law necessary. There are no winners. Justice is the only victory," he said.

Archbishop Anthony Apuron, 70, has vigorously denied allegations he molested at least five altar boys in the 1960s and 1970s. The allegations got little attention when they first came to light in 2014 but resurfaced this summer after a deacon accused Apuron of keeping the archdiocese's sexual abuse policy weak to protect himself.

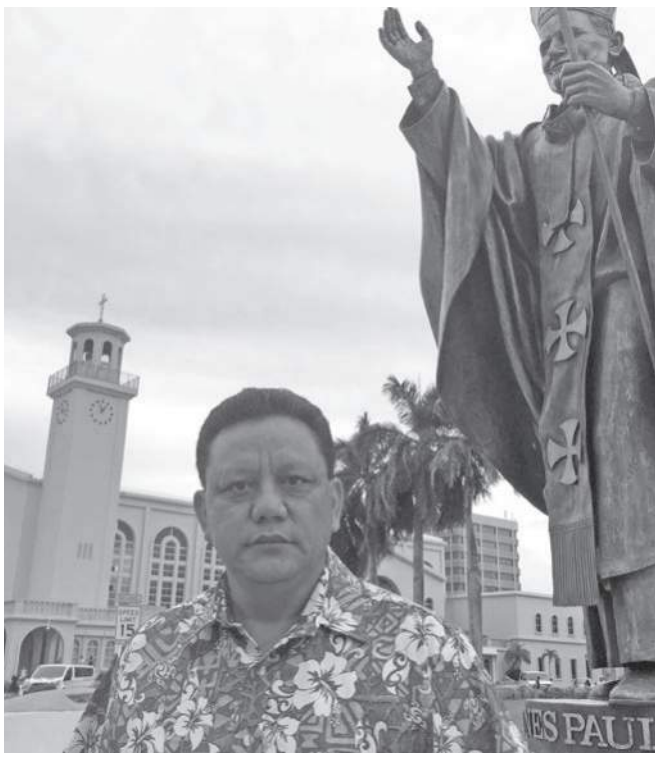
One of the alleged victims, Roy Taitague Quintanilla, 52, of Hawaii, said he was 12 when Apuron, then a parish priest, touched him inappropriately after persuading him to spend the night at his house.

"I cried then, and I've never stopped crying," he said at a news conference in May. The Associated Press does not usually identify alleged victims of sexual abuse, but Quintanilla has spoken publicly.

Apuron has not been charged. His lawyer did not return repeated messages seeking comment.

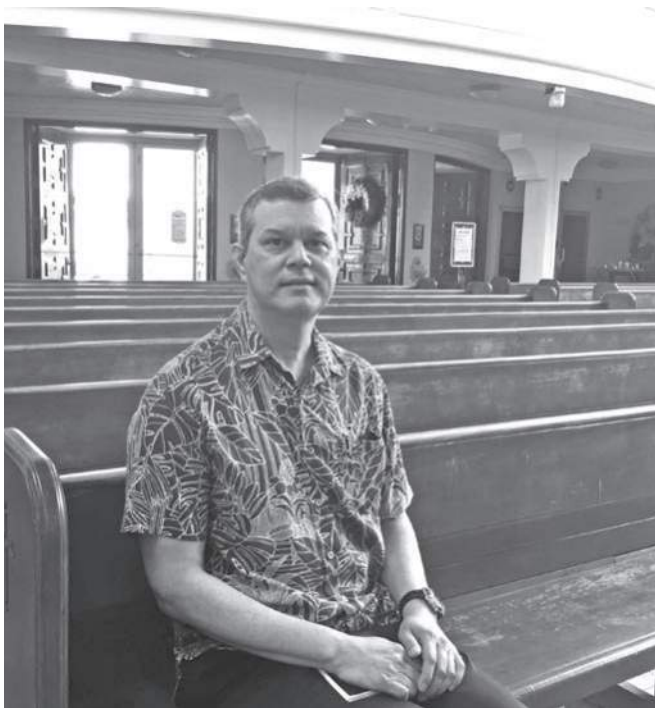
AP

In this Sept. 27, 2016 photo, founder of Guam's "Silent No More" movement Joseph Santos, center, Guam Sen. Frank Blas, Jr., right, and Sen. Frank Aguon, Jr., left, move a sign after addressing a crowd at Veterans Cemetery in Piti, Guam.



AP

Roland Sondia, 54, stands next to the statue of Saint John Paul II in Hagatna, Guam on Friday, Sept. 23, 2016.



AP

In this Sept. 20, 2016 photo, Andrew Camacho, vice president of the Concerned Catholics of Guam, poses for a photo inside the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica after a news conference in Hagatna, Guam.

AP

In this November 2014 file photo, Archbishop Anthony Apuron stands in front of the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica in Hagatna, Guam.

In June, Pope Francis named a new leader to run the archdiocese until a new archbishop is named. That interim leader, Archbishop Savio Hon Tai Fai, told the Guam faithful that a church trial for Apuron will be held, a conciliatory effort that was seen by some as a way to kill the statute-of-limitations bill.

Guam, some 3,800 miles west of Hawaii, is far removed from the hierarchy of the Catholic Church.

The history of the church on the island stretches back to the 1600s, when Guam's native Chamorros were converted to Catholicism by Spanish missionaries. Chamorros who resisted killed a Jesuit missionary and his Filipino altar boy. Their martyrdom fueled Catholicism on the island for the next 350 years.

The island was ceded to the U.S. after the 1898 Spanish-American War and was occupied by Japanese forces during World War II until being liberated in 1944. It remains an important outpost in the western Pacific for the U.S. military.

Some speculate Apuron's alleged acts have long been known but went unreported because of loyalty to the church. Apuron lobbied heavily against a 2011 bill that became law that suspended the statute of limitations for sexual abuse lawsuits for two years. The archbishop succeeded in getting lawmakers to rewrite the bill so that it did not apply to legal actions against the church.

"They were getting calls on the floor by the archbishop himself. I could hear the archbishop's voice talking to them," said the Legislature's vice speaker, Benjamin J. Cruz, who says he was sexually abused as a child by a priest in Los Angeles.

But that deference toward the church may be weakening. The Legislature and governor didn't buckle this time under the church's pressure. That such a bill even got traction could be considered a fundamental change.

In an open letter to the people of Guam, explaining why he signed the bill, Calvo said children have been systemically denied justice over the years: "Finally, these survivors will be heard the way they should have been heard."

Some parishioners still support the church. Melinda Burke, 63, an active lay member and a victim of child sexual abuse, said the turmoil hasn't shaken her faith.

"Priests and lay people are sinners. Only God is holy. God is our rock, not his imperfect church," she said.

Some say the weekly Sunday protests in front of the cathedral are disrespectful.

"I just think it's disgraceful," said Frances Portusach Hudgens. "What kind of Christians are these people?"

But some say it is about time the church takes responsibility for what happened, even if it means financial ruin.

"We cannot think about bankruptcy," said Andrew Camacho, vice president of Concerned Catholics of Guam, one of the groups that have organized the protests. "It's unlikely that every single asset will be gone or depleted, but if it is, if the church ends up with nothing, the people will rebuild it. We will see a purified church."

Let's Move Marianas Expo caps Childhood Obesity Awareness

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Let's Move Marianas campaign literally kicked off last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex to finalize the CNMI's commemoration of Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.

Let's Move Marianas Campaign chair Amber Mendiola expressed her gratitude for those who made the expo such a success.

"I am very grateful that we have various agencies here. For physical activity, we have the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation, the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association, Saipan Soccer School, and other various agencies to promote health and wellness," said Mendiola.

During the expo children starting at the age of 4 were accompanied by their parents in various physical activities that included soccer, volleyball, basketball, and an obstacle course, which is then rewarded with a stamp for incentives.

"They go around to all of the booths, do the activities—parents must be involved with the events too, and then they get a passport stamped for prizes. We provide water and fruits throughout the time, and at the end of the event they claim a physical activity incentive," said Mendiola.

She said there was a special feeling looking at how the parents interacted with their children through sports. "We've usually given out hula hoops and stuff, and it's all to encourage not just the kids but also the parents to work with them. It's really fun to see the parents playing with the kids as well."

The registration booth of the Let's Move Marianas Expo 2016, at the Oleai Sports Complex was full of registrants last Oct. 1.
ERWIN ENCINARES

A participant dashes through the obstacle course during the Let's Move Marianas Expo 2016 at the Oleai Sports Complex.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther Muña, who dropped by the event to support the staff, was impressed with the outcome.

"I'm actually very pleased with the turnout. I came here to offer support to the staff, to let them know that this is something that I really support. This is something that even us at work are trying to do as well, trying to get some exercise," she said.

Muña also relates to how this is a beneficial for the parent-child bonding. "We've been doing this annually, and it's basically getting activities for the kids, the schoolchildren, and even the parents to get some exercise along the way. It's fun, and it's a good way to enjoy the Saturday," she said. "It is a great opportunity for everybody to just exercise."

The Let's Move Marianas Expo started back in 2010, and has been a hit since then. The goal of the expo is for kids and parents to be active for a day and spend some quality time with one another.

Student volunteers from Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School, and Northern Marianas College pose for a picture during the Let's Move Marianas Expo 2016.
ERWIN ENCINARES

The children are segregated by age with the help of volunteers.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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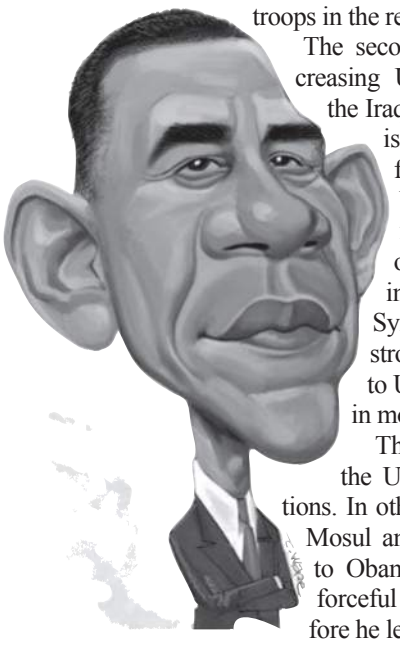
EDITORIAL

Iraq folly: Obama errs in sending in more troops

President Barack Obama's decision to put 615 more American troops into the Iraq war, announced Wednesday, is curiously at odds with the peace-builder legacy that he would seem to be working on with his trip to Israel to attend the funeral of Israeli peace-seeker and fellow Nobel Peace Prize winner Shimon Peres.

The argument for the move, to beef up the fight against the Islamic State, bringing the U.S. troop level in Iraq to 5,180 in the face of Obama's long-ago campaign pledge to end the Iraq war, is weak. The United States already has underway military involvement not only in the 13-year-plus Iraq conflict, but also in Afghanistan, Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen with little effect. Why raise the level of exposure of U.S. troops in the region further now?



The second argument for increasing U.S. involvement in the Iraq conflict at this point is to raise prospects of fulfilling the boast of U.S. Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter on Sept. 8 that Mosul in Iraq and Raqqa in Syria, both Islamic State strongholds, would fall to U.S.-led forces "within months."

That is to say, before the U.S. presidential elections. In other words, the fall of Mosul and Raqqa would add to Obama's credentials as a forceful military leader before he left office.

There are some strong arguments against increasing U.S. troop involvement in Iraq at this point. The first is that the Iraqi national army, which U.S. forces are supplying and training, continues to show itself relatively toothless on the battlefield _ meaning that U.S. forces will play a prominent role in whatever assault on Mosul occurs. Washington has yet to explain coherently why Americans should care one way or the other who holds Mosul, or Raqqa, for that matter. The argument that taking Mosul would validate continued U.S. support of the Iraqi government of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi and the policy of building it a credible national army has a vaguely "dog-chasing-its-tail" quality to it. If Abadi's government had the general support of the Iraqi people, they would put in the field a credible national army on their own account, and his government would not need more American troops to fight its battles.

Obama's decision to increase U.S. forces in Iraq at this point seems wrong, and may become even more costly when an offensive to take Mosul begins.

(c)2016 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Mike Pence has more to lose than an election

If Donald Trump spends even 90 minutes of time preparing for his next debate against Hillary Clinton, let's hope he spends it watching Mike Pence debate Tim Kaine Tuesday night.

Unlike Trump, who was reportedly too distracted to bother getting ready for his own faceoff with Clinton, Pence has prepared for Tuesday night's debate like a Boy Scout looking for a badge.

In accounts from his aides, Pence has been getting ready since the day he was chosen as Trump's VP, poring over binders, studying policy issues and doing multiple mock debates with his friend, Gov. Scott Walker. Pence even flew to Wisconsin last week for one last session with Walker before going up against Kaine on Tuesday.

If Trump can put down his Twitter feed long enough to watch Pence in action, he'll probably see Pence executing a strategy that looks a lot like the one Trump should have followed against Clinton in their first debate.

Let's file these things under "What to Do" in Mr. Trump's debate prep folder. We'll likely see Pence articulate conservative principles like smaller government, lower taxes, a robust national defense, religious liberty and the importance of appointing conservative justices to the Supreme Court.

Pence will discredit Clinton and Kaine as two career politicians and you can bet he will throw the words "Benghazi" and "private email server" somewhere in there, too.

Even though he'll be attacking Clinton and Kaine, Pence will say these things in a tone of voice that is measured, but passionate, like a life coach, and end on a note of national unity, ignoring the irony that he is on a ticket with a man who acts like a blowtorch at a toilet paper convention.

While Trump is watching Pence Tuesday, he should pay careful attention as Pence avoids some common debate mistakes a person could make, like admitting to paying no federal income taxes or rebutting an opponent's point by simply yelling, "Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!"

And if he has a hard time sleeping in the nights to follow, he will probably drink a glass of milk and go back to bed instead of tweeting that a former Miss Universe is a "disgusting" sex tape star.

Let's file these items in Mr. Trump's debate prep folder under "What Not to Do (Next Time)."

Being professional, respectful and knowledgeable may be hard for Trump, but it will be the easy part for Pence in the debate, because that's who he is.

The hard part for Pence Tuesday night is also the hardest part of his vice presidential candidacy, which is the vast expanse that separates Pence and Trump on issues, temperament and character.

By PATRICIA MURPHY
CQ-Roll Call

Roll Call columnist Patricia Murphy covers national politics for The Daily Beast. *Previously, she was the Capitol Hill bureau chief for Politics Daily and founder and editor of* Citizen Jane Politics. F*ollow her on Twitter @1PatriciaMurphy.*

On the policy side, Pence and Trump have varied wildly at times. While Trump has insisted that he was against the Iraq War from the beginning, Pence voted for the war when he was in the House.

On his signature issue of trade, Trump called the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal the "rape of our country," but Pence lobbied for its passage in 2014.

When Trump proposed a ban on Muslims entering the country last year, Pence called the idea "offensive and unconstitutional."

As Trump's running mate, Pence has released 10 years of tax returns, even while Trump has refused, and Pence has said plainly that President Barack Obama was born in the United States, while Trump said recently that he did "a great job" insisting that the president produce a long-form birth certificate.

Between Kaine and Pence, the Indiana governor clearly has the harder job Tuesday night, and not just because his boss blew it in last week's debate.

Pence's job is harder because his greatest asset is his credibility. While Trump flails and yells, Pence's credibility, earned over a lifetime of public service, has allowed him to be the steady voice on the ticket, the "Reliable One" his fellow Republicans can trust will be the grown-up in a Trump administration. His credibility is also the reason he will be at the top of the list of GOP candidates in the future.

But how far will Pence go Tuesday night in pursuit of becoming the vice president? Will his ambition lead him to defend Trump's 3 a.m. tweets seething at people who have slighted him? Will he parrot Trump's paid employees, who insist Trump won Monday's debate, or call Trump "a gentleman" while Trump dumps Bill Clinton's infidelities at Hillary Clinton's feet? Will he agree that American allies have to "pay up," as Trump says, or face the consequences?

Pence is on the ticket, but will he join the charade? It's one thing to defend Trump, which is Pence's job. But it's another to sacrifice his own credibility in the process.

If that happens in Tuesday's debate, Pence will not only damage the ticket, he will lose much more than an election in November.

Dibinan Natibu

Gi lamayot isla siha gi halum iya Pasifiku sige natibu madiskute futtunan niha gi rimulinun tiniguñg iya China yumuti` kepbleña gi todu klasin kinalamtin bisnis.

Gi este na tiru bula natibu man-dinisplanta modun linala` niha. Gi mismu tiempu todu hagas bisnis familia manmafahan ni Chinu. I tautau mandinilalag huyuñg esta i otru siha soñgsuñg. Masusedi este giya Palau. Masusesedi pa`gu guine giya Saipan.

Na` triste para ta huñgog na megai gi offisiat publiku esta bendidu anten niha gi un` kompania. Esta ma-aksepta na siha i esklabu yan osgun na galagun i kompania. Ayu buente na mayuti interes publiku ni pumega siha gi offisiun niha. Guaguan apas niniha, $5,000 gi mes.

Esta tihu tuñgu taimanu para bai chahlau i oppan na mansañgan. Mamahlau-yu`! Lalalu`yu`! Mampus ha estotba konsensiag-hu na tai guine papa` tinagpapa`ña i offisiat publiku siha.

I taya` bidan niha para uma-adelanta kualidat linala` tautau-ta kumonfitma na esta interes monedan niha ma-ususuni!

Man-namase` famaguonta gi este na karera. Taya` siña tumulaika este na karera solu hita ni publiku pa`gu na eleksion. Fanachu pot futtunan famaguonta!

Proteksion Famaguon

Makat na disision finatinas Gobietnu Ed Calvo `nai ha fitma lai ya ha sedi manma-abusa yan estane na famaguon mañgeha gi kotte dispues de siete años.

Ha baba appottunidat para manma-abusa yan estane umaligau remediu gi kotten lai. Mamueba dichu proteksion desde institusion relihion `sino haye na inetnun guatu gi manma-isague na famaguon.

Mauleg na disision i hana atbiettu pettan institusion `nai mangaige i umaminasa man-inosiente siha na famaguon. Ti rason salape` institusion. Lau dichu rason i sumen presisu na proteksion maninosiente siha na famaguon lalahe yan famalao`an. Esta ti u fan lauya dibatde i mantailaye na heñun mamale` yan obispu!

Yangin i puntu pot proteksion institusion inetnun relihion kau gaige este gi hinassun dumestrosia ha`anen famaguon ni pumañut pinadesin niha pot trenta esta kuarenta años na tiempu? Yangin ni hagu mismu masge sa` lache disposisionmu prumutehi famaguon pues ma`ase` ya un` resigna hau ensegidas. Ni unu gi entre famaguon mame mumirese malatratamientun miyu! Lastima!

I dañu petmanente kontra i manma-isague na famaguon. Ya maseha ma-abusa `sino ma-estane-gue` seriosamenti ti pumara malag i gima` Yuus pot hineñgeña gi Saina. Ya kada biahe na humalum gi gima Yuus ya hali`e i muna` tailaye-gue siempre u luhan yan chathinassu kau umarepiti giya guiya parehu aminasu.

Mattu oran areglu gi gumeluluye relihion katoliku yan otru siha otganisasion. Tafan daña ni fiet na mañgilisyanu ya ta abiba sattun na areglu gi hilu` gasgas na disposision pot hineñgeta.

Kau Bendidu Marianas?

Gi fina` konbetsasion, mappla` gi pachot i mañgekuentus gi lamasa kau bendidu futtunan tautau-ta. Hu pega gi pisun talañgahu ya hu ta`lun umekuñgog haf` i madiskukute.

Tai konfitmasion-yu` ni mansañgan lau mampos oppan na parehu ha` i manma-elihe yan apuntau na offisiat gobietnu monhayan mabendi anten niha gi un` riku na kompania.

Hu arastreha i na`an siha ni mañgahulu` yan haf` modun pagamientun niha. Namanman sinedahu na esta mamahlauyu` nu guahu mismu. Ti hoñgiyun na malabida!

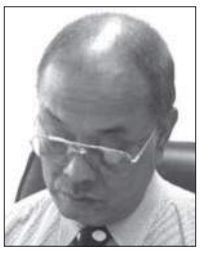
Haf` na hinatme lalu` lagu yan kunanaf ulu` enteramiente sisteman gobietnamientu guine. Tatnai tali`e manchathinassu. Taimanu na mampos misin i nuebu na troñkun kepblen niha.

Na`chatsaga i bendidu na konsensia `nai mayuti` dignu na disposision asuntun linahyan siha. `An esta ni hagu mismu ti un` tuñgu` haf` mauleg yan timauleg pues mattu i oran para un` dispachan maisa hau ensegidas. Desde ñgai`an `nai manmanbota ham benterun (salesman) ha`anen mame?

Hinanau Malañgu: Hu li`e un` patgun desde tresi años mamadesi kanset. Mahospitat ya ma-akanteha ma-amti estake maguñg i kanset gi agaga`ña. Namagof `nai diniñgu ni un` pipinu` na chenot. Numa`lu tatte gi otdinariu na linala` patgon.

`Nai mattu gi idat 21 tinaluye ta`lu kanset. Pa`gu na biahe gaige i chenot gi haga`ña. Ti un` añu madisponi i patgun. Makat na finapos para guiya mismu yan familia. Todu machogue pot para uma-assiste ya una`lu tatte. Kasi gi finu` man-amku` ti patgun tanu`.

Diberas puti na katsada finapus seriosu na chenot gi mem-



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

bron familia. Hu pokati este na katsada kanaha` dies añus. Taya` numa`e-yu` esperansa ke inañguhog-hu gi Saina yan disposisioña. Makat na hinanau gi maseha haye na familia.

Ayu na finaposhu numa`e-yu` mas kinemprende pot setbisiun hinemlu` gi manmodetnu yan mikapasidat siha na hospitat gi kuatkuet setbisiu. Chagu` eskaleran hospit-ta gi bandan kapasidat yan abilidat. Lau fan manna`e agradesimientu na machachage lokue` i mediku yan infetmera siha nina` siñan niha para un` mana` homlu`.

Iya hululu` na chinatsaga i taya` fiñkas para ta aregla kapasidat yan abilidat hospitat-ta umatende i mas manmakat siha na chenot. Pot ihemplu: Manahanau un` neni para hospitat San Diego. Ginasta programan medical referral guine mas ke miyon pesus estake u fattu tatte i malañgu. Mana` hanau sa` titana` siña lau ha lapbla hit manadan fondu.

Kinilu: Sessu hu taitai yan huñgog na`an ga`ga`, era kinilu. Hu arastreha haf` na gaige kontodu halum tinayuyot. Kontodu kanta-ta pot i Niñu ilelegña "kulan kinilu gi sagaña".

Un` ga`ga` na sumen tai estotbu ni achog un` sesi` korasoña para un` punu`. Silensiu ha aksepta disposision-mu ya umachigu`, matai.

Kasi gaige mas este gi bittun hinimidde yan silensiu na mañan ga`ga`. Magahet na `an mamaitkilu hau, siempre un` huñgog ya repara haf` gaige gi oriyamu.

Teñga `an para bai` fañge` huna` katma hinasoghu. Inakompaña suabe na dandan gi santatte para u esgaihon mas sensian pinasensia yan hinimidde. Hana`e-yu` tiempu umanalisa haf` tinige`hu yan kampu umaregla ayu na patte i fatsun ñaihon rason.

Mauleg na eksisiu diariu piot gi oran tinayuyot.

A pioneer in Oriental medicine

It's no secret that we have a lot of Asian people in the Commonwealth and many have their own healing practices and remedies. Foremost among these is Oriental medicine, which has many different branches and which has only recently been accepted by Western medical institutions.

For years, the AMA tried to ban acupuncture but when faced with the fact that it worked, they backed down. Now acupuncture, as well as other forms of Oriental medicine, is finding its way into Western hospitals and clinics.

In the late 1960s, acupuncture, Chinese herbs, Tui Na and Qi Gong were virtually unheard of—let alone practiced—outside China. However, a practitioner, Stuart Watts diligently pursued traditional Chinese medicine, or TCM, and its various components, in order to bring them into application and acceptance in the West.

Watts founded several of the best Oriental medical schools in the county, and has also helped to formulate impeccable standards in the education of traditional Chinese medicine, as well as its clinical applications. Stuart Watts is perhaps the key figure in America who has brought traditional Chinese medicine and its remarkable healing systems into mainstream America.

Stuart Watts was one of the first important people I interviewed for *Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. What he has to say is fascinating because the approach is so different from our conventional medical models. Although my original article appeared in 2000, it is still relevant because Chinese and Oriental medicine have remained unchanged for centuries.

Stuart Watts:

"I have spent my whole life developing standards for a profession that didn't have any. Those standards have been realized in establishing schools of Oriental medicine—and determining what a quality school is; the establishment of acupuncture as a profession in the United States; and the establishment of Oriental body work, such as shiatsu and Tui Na, as a valid medical profession in the U.S."

What exactly is Oriental medicine? And how is it different from traditional Chinese medicine?

"Oriental medicine includes five components: acupuncture, herbs, massage, diet/nutrition and Qi Gong/Tai Chi. Binding all of these is communication, because the practitioner needs to know what is going on with the patient and to make informed decisions and diagnoses.

"Oriental medicine encompasses traditional Chinese medicine as well as other forms of treatment and styles such as Korean hand acupuncture, or "Twelve by Twelve" acupuncture. Although they are Oriental in their approach, they are what is called a "family lineage" style, and not part of TCM, or traditional Chinese medicine, per se.

"What is important to remember for all of these components is that they are based on a meridian system. It is generally believed that there are 12 meridians in the body; but there are sub-breakdowns into a total of 71 meridians.

"A meridian is a pathway of energy flow, and though they can't be seen by CAT scans or x-rays, they are there. And energy, or Qi, is continually flowing along these meridians. There are major points, junctions, along the meridians where the energy "pools" and those are the acupuncture points. By manipulating a point, whether it's by massage, or a needle or some kind of stimulation, one is able to move the energy along. As a result a more harmonious balance has been created in the body because the energy is now flowing freely.

"Another key component to TCM is the concept of either tonifying (building up) or sedating (quieting down). Treatment is either one or the other, such as increasing heat in the body or reducing it, as an example. But that is the purpose of diagnosis: to determine if the conditions are hot or cold, in excess or deficient.

Diagnosing the patient

"There are eight parameters: The condition is either yin or yang, external or internal, hot or cold, empty or full. Usually it's a combination; and it's fairly easy to determine if the disease is on the inside or the outside.

"If it's an external disease, then it has a quick onset. If it's internal, then it's a slow-occurring disease, more of a chronic nature.

"If the condition is hot, it's easy to see: the tongue is red, the pulse is fast. If the condition is cold, the tongue is pale, maybe with a white coating, and the pulse is slow. Then the practitioner has to determine which meridians are being affected, and then the treatment is done by manipulation of various points along the meridian. And that is how the practitioner re-establishes harmony in the patient.

"What you must remember is that a traditional Chinese medicine practitioner does many things, and not just acupuncture and herbs They usually include bodywork, they talk about your diet and maybe prescribe a form of exercise. Ideally, the TCM practitioner today is well trained in all five branches of Oriental medicine. So today, if you go see a

By RUSS MASON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. *His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.*

certified acupuncturist, you are getting a lot more than just needles. As a matter of fact, Oriental bodywork is a key component also, and we are teaching this in our schools.

"The treatment of the human body/mind/spirit, including the electromagnetic or energetic field, which surrounds, infuses and brings that body to life, by pressure and/or manipulation. Shiatsu and acupressure are based upon traditional Chinese medical principles for assessing and evaluating the energetic system and use of traditional Asian/Oriental techniques and treatment strategies to primarily affect and balance the energetic system for the purpose of treating the human body, emotions, mind, energy field and spirit for the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health.

"Methods of assessment and evaluation may include the Chinese Four Pillars of examination as follows: observation, listening, asking and touching. Assessments are based primarily on traditional Chinese medicine parameters relating to the balance and circulation of the five essential substances. Qi, Jing, Shen, Xue and Jin-ye. Individuals are certified at an entry level in the field by the NCCAOM (National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine).

"Treatment may include, but is not limited to, the following: touching, pressing or holding of the body along meridians and/or on acupoints, primarily with the hands, stretching, external application of medicinal plant foods, heat or cold, dietary and exercise suggestion. Cupping, guasha, moxibustion and other methods/modalities may also be used by properly trained practitioners."

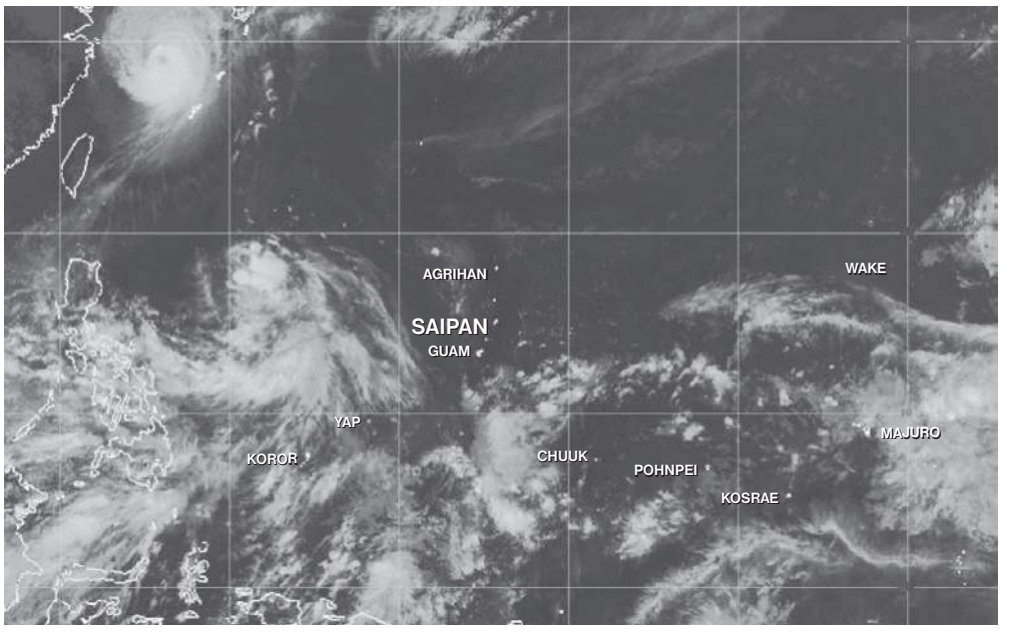
It might be a wise idea for our CHC to have a Oriental medicine practitioner on call, if only for the Asian patients who might prefer to have treatment options they're familiar with.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:15 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak surface trough is pushing through the Marianas this morning with a few showers associated with the trough. East to east-northeast trade winds will follow behind the trough with mostly sunny skies today. An upper-level trough east of the Marianas will bring a slight chance of thunderstorms to the Marianas this afternoon, persisting through Wednesday night as it passes. Relatively quieter weather is expected through the remainder of the week into the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly sunny	82 / 88 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	79 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	78 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	78 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	77 / 86 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	83 / 87 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	82 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Rain showers	56 / 61 °F
Beijing	Sunny	49 / 72 °F
Hong Kong	Partly sunny	78 / 89 °F
Honolulu	Partly sunny	73 / 82 °F
London	Sunny	53 / 61 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	58 / 76 °F
Manila	Strong thunderstorms	79 / 87 °F
Melbourne	Afternoon clouds	47 / 58 °F
Miami	Cloudy	80 / 86 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	54 / 69 °F
Osaka	Rain showers	66 / 85 °F
Paris	Sunny	49 / 62 °F
Pusan	Mostly cloudy	69 / 74 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	52 / 73 °F
Salem	A few showers	51 / 60 °F
San Francisco	Mostly sunny	53 / 68 °F
Seoul	Sunny	58 / 76 °F
Tokyo	A few showers	71 / 75 °F
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	58 / 69 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
4:05 AM	LOW TIDE	0.16 Feet
10:29 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.74 Feet
4:28 PM	LOW TIDE	0.91 Feet
9:39 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.69 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	9:14 AM	9:02 PM
Thursday	10:03 AM	9:46 PM
Friday	10:51 AM	10:32 PM
Saturday	11:41 AM	11:21 PM
Sunday	12:30 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

Experts: No clear criminal case over Trump tax disclosure

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump tax documents were published without his permission in The New York Times, but that doesn't necessarily make for a clear-cut criminal case against the newspaper or its source.

For one thing, it's not clear who did the divulging—the Times says it received the documents anonymously in the mail. And legal experts say the newspaper itself should be on solid First Amendment grounds if it used newsworthy, accurate information and did nothing illegal to get it.

"When you're in an election and you're looking at candidates' tax returns, I don't think it's dangerous" legally for the Times, said media lawyer James Goodale, the Times' general counsel when the federal government sought unsuccessfully in 1971 to stop the newspaper from publishing the "Pentagon Papers," a classified military study showing that the U.S. had secretly expanded the Vietnam War.

Trump's lawyers have threatened "prompt initiation of appropriate legal action" of their own over Saturday's story, which said the businessman had declared $916 million in losses in 1995. The deduction was so big he could have forgone paying federal income taxes for 18 years.

The Times said Monday it hadn't heard further from Trump's lawyers.

"Our job is to report on matters of public concern, and that's what we did here," the newspaper said in a statement. "Nothing could be more central to the First Amendment than our right to publish, and the public's right to know, important information about presidential candidates."

Trump has built his campaign around his business acumen and financial success, while bucking a 40-year-long custom of presidential candidates releasing their income tax returns.

His campaign told the Times he had paid hundreds of millions of dollars in various forms of taxes, had a duty to his business, family and employees "to pay no more tax than legally required" and had gained a unique understanding of the tax code.

Trump himself has raised questions about publicly disclosing information rival Hillary Clinton has kept private. He urged Russia in July to find emails that Clinton deleted from her personal server, saying they were private, when she was secretary of state. Trump later said he was being sarcastic.

The Times published the first page of Trump's 1995 Connecticut, New Jersey and New York state tax returns and said his former accountant had authenticated them. All three states have criminal laws against disclosing such tax information without permission.

Connecticut Department of Revenue Services commissioner Kevin Sullivan said Monday his agency conducted internal checks and was confident no staffers had improperly looked up Trump's returns.

As for the Times, "there's not, to my mind a pattern, that would suggest anything that would be subject to prosecution," Sullivan said in an interview.

AP

In this Aug. 24, 2016 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump walks in the rain with Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi as they arrive at a campaign rally in Tampa, Fla.

How to make protocols stick

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: I work in a medical practice in which the staff regularly fails to follow established protocols. Although I know there should be consequences for ignoring the rules, we haven't been able to make that work with our employees.

Writing people up seems to have no effect, probably because they know they won't be fired. We've considered deducting money from their bonus pay, but we're afraid that might hurt morale. What other consequences can be used with professional adults?

A: When employees appear to be willfully noncompliant, managers tend to view punishment as the logical solution. In reality, however, imposing negative consequences should be the last step, not the first. So let's start by considering whether your focus on penalties might be premature.

People disregard rules for many reasons. Unless managers explain the purpose of a policy, employees may have no idea why it matters. Also, some procedures may not be as clearly defined as management thinks. With complex processes, people can have trouble remembering all the steps. And sometimes they find an easier way to accomplish the same result.

To assess this particular situation, ask yourself a few relevant questions. Have these protocols been specifically defined and communicated in writing? Are visual reminders provided at appropriate points? Has management thoroughly explained why the procedures are important? Are employees frequently reminded of those reasons?

If you haven't already done so, try asking the staff why they aren't following the desired steps. Unless they're being deliberately stubborn, which seems unlikely in a medical practice, they may be able to point out flaws and suggest improvements. When an entire group fails to comply, the problem often lies with the policy, not the people.

Finally, remember that consequences can also be positive. Instead of issuing warnings or withholding money, you might publicly praise those who do well or give them an extra bonus. But if, after all your efforts, some obstinate employees still ignore proper procedures, then its time to replace those meaningless write-ups with pre-termination notices.

Q: I recently sent several emails in which I referred to my managers as idiots. Unfortunately, they saw these messages and were not pleased. When they called me in for a discussion, I admitted that my language was inappropriate and that I deserved a reprimand.

Even though I apologized profusely, I'm afraid my bosses may still be upset with me. Should I send them an apologetic email or just leave it alone and hope they forget?

A: In terms of immediate response, you have probably done enough. After an admission of guilt and a fervent apology, additional groveling might seem like overkill. And if the meeting with your bosses ended on a positive note, you certainly don't want to remind them of the problem.

To completely undo the damage, however, you will have to demonstrate that this was a temporary expression of frustration, not a reflection of your true feelings. Therefore, you must be sure that any future interactions with management are friendly, polite and respectful. While a single misstep might eventually be forgotten, a repeat performance could kill your career.

House panel: Mylan CEO minimized EpiPen profits in testimony

WASHINGTON (AP)—Leaders of the House Oversight Committee want EpiPen maker Mylan to explain why the company's CEO apparently misled Congress about profits the company claimed for the life-saving EpiPen injection device.

Mylan CEO Heather Bresch repeatedly told the panel last month that Mylan made just $50 in profit for EpiPens sold for more than $300 apiece.

But lawmakers said in a letter released Monday that the figures Bresch cited were calculated after factoring in the 37.5 percent U.S. tax rate. Before taxes, the EpiPen profit is actually $160 for a two-pack, said committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz of Utah and Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, the panel's senior Democrat.

"Failing to disclose tax assumptions that formed the basis for ... the profit per pack claim, despite opportunities to do so before and during the hearing, raises questions," Chaffetz and Cummings wrote.

Bresch, the daughter of Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., infuriated lawmakers as she tried to explain steep cost increases of her company's EpiPens at a Sept. 21 hearing.

Republicans and Democrats grilled Bresch about the emergency allergy shot's sky-high price and the profits for a company with sales in excess of $11 billion. The list price of EpiPens has grown to $608 for a two-pack, an increase of more than 500 percent since 2007.

EpiPens are used in emergencies to stop anaphylaxis, the potentially fatal allergic reactions to insect bites and stings and foods like nuts and eggs. People usually keep multiple EpiPens handy at home, school or work, but the syringes, prefilled with the hormone epinephrine, expire after a year.

In almost four hours of questioning, Bresch at times seemed unsure, or declined to answer directly, when asked about the company's finances and profits. At one point during the hearing, Chaffetz told Bresch that Mylan's "dumbed down financials" did not make sense without explanation.

"You know, your numbers don't add up," Cummings told Bresch. "And it is extremely difficult to believe that you are making only $50 profit when you just increased the price by more than $100 per pen."

Defending the company's business practices, Bresch said

High-end retail theft ring busted that targeted Western US

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—San Francisco prosecutors have charged 16 people in a retail theft ring that stole more than $200,000 worth of clothing, purses and other merchandise from high-end stores such as Louis Vuitton and Salvatore Ferragamo, the district attorney's office said Monday.

Ten more people have been charged in other Western U.S. cities where the group stole an additional $200,000 worth of merchandise, including Honolulu and Seattle, prosecutors said. The group is accused in dozens of thefts dating back to 2015.

"We're taking something that on its face might have been a single or maybe two or three events, and we have been able to connect this to many other events," San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon said at a news conference announcing the charges.

Linking the defendants to multiple thefts increases the potential sentences they face, he said.

The group in some cases sent as many as 10 or 12 people into a store with bags to grab as much merchandise as possible before running out the door, Assistant District Attorney Frank Carrubba said.

Some of the thefts became violent, with the thieves using pepper spray on store employees or brandishing knives, Carrubba said. There were often getaway drivers.

The charges filed include robbery, grand theft and commercial burglary.

Nation

Official: Recovering train data recorder could take days

HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP)—It could be days before federal investigators working in 12-hour shifts clear enough debris to recover the data recorder from a train that crashed into a station, killing a woman and injuring more than 100 others.

National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Chris O'Neil described the effort as "complex" and said workers are going as "quickly as possible to make that happen."

The effort comes as investigators learned that a separate device that was supposed to record the New Jersey Transit train's speed and braking information wasn't functioning, according to the National Transportation Safety Board Vice Chair T. Bella Dinh-Zarr.

The remaining data recorder, which officials said was likely to be newer than the nonworking device, is in the cab control car in the front of the train and has not been recovered because it is under a collapsed section of the station's roof.

Officials say they hope to access that device "in a matter of days," O'Neil said. The NTSB did not respond to questions or provide an update on its progress Monday.

"You hear all the machinery in the background. They are working around the clock, in 12-hour shifts, to remove the debris as quickly and safely as possible," he added.

AP

This Oct. 1, 2016, photo provided by the National Transportation Safety Board shows damage done to the Hoboken Terminal in Hoboken, N.J., after a commuter train crash that killed one person and injured more than 100 others last week.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Federal regulations require commuter trains to have a working recorder in the lead car, according to Jim Southworth, the NTSB's lead investigator for the crash.

The regulations also require the recorders to be inspected every year. It was unclear when the recorders in the train were last inspected.

Federal officials said the recorder that didn't work was an older device installed in 1995. An unknown number have had to be replaced over the years as they failed.

Investigators have said the train's engineer, Thomas Gallagher, told them he was going only 10 mph as he approached the station, but he had no memory of the crash, according to Dinh-Zarr.

He said he only remembered waking up on the floor of the engineer's cab, she said.

Gallagher also told investigators that he was fully rested and that the train was operating properly Thursday morning before it crashed in Hoboken.

Months before Thursday's deadly train crash, federal rail officials found dozens of violations during an audit that focused on NJ Transit's safety and operations, a U.S. official confirmed to The Associated Press.

The official, who was familiar with the Federal Railroad Administration audit, wasn't authorized to speak publicly about an ongoing investigation and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The audit was launched after the federal regulatory agency noticed an uptick in rail incidents and found "dozens of safety violations" that needed to be fixed immediately, the official said. The commuter rail agency was fined as a result.

A spokesman for NJ Transit hasn't responded to requests for comment.

On Monday, Democratic Assemblyman John McKeon called on federal and state railroad officials to give a public accounting of the agency's safety violations.

"It's very disturbing to learn that a data recorder pulled from the crashed NJ Transit train in Hoboken wasn't working. This is inexcusable," he said.

Since 2011, NJ Transit trains have been involved in more than 150 accidents that caused more than $4.8 million in damage to tracks or equipment and has paid more than $500,000 to settle safety violations, according to federal data.

Information from the Federal Railroad Administration shows that NJ Transit has settled 183 safety violations—ranging from employee drug and alcohol use to violations of railroad operating rules or practices—since Jan. 1, 2011.

Family of black man shot 14 times by police wants charges

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—The family of a man killed in July by Sacramento police after 911 callers reported he was waving a knife and acting erratically demanded Monday that two officers face murder charges after dashcam video revealed they talked inside their police cruiser about running him down. He dodged the cruiser twice and was shot 14 times less than a minute later by the same two officers.

The officers "behaved like big game hunters closing in on an animal," said John Burris, a lawyer for the family of Joseph Mann, who was mentally unstable and homeless.

The demand for the murder charges came as Los Angeles police chief Charlie Beck defended his officers in the fatal shootings of a black man Saturday who police say was armed with a loaded semi-automatic gun and a Hispanic man on Sunday who officers say was wielding replica handgun.

The latest police shootings happened amid heightened tensions over police actions involving black people and other minorities across the country, and followed two more fatal encounters between California police and black men last week in San Diego and Pasadena.

In the Sacramento case, police have said Mann was waving a knife in the air and doing karate moves in the streets just before police responded. But Burris told reporters he was not threatening anybody and that the two officers who shot him, John Tennis and Randy Lozoya, should face a U.S. Justice Department civil rights investigation in addition to murder charges.

The officers can be heard on the recording saying "I'm gonna hit him" and "OK, go for it" before appearing to drive their cruiser twice at Mann, who managed to scramble out of its way both times. The officers then stopped the cruiser, got out of it, pursued him on foot and opened fire.

"Mann was standing stationary on a sidewalk with no one in close proximity when the officers unloaded their guns," Burris wrote in a letter to U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch.

Sacramento police spokesman Matthew McPhail said police are "encouraged to assess each circumstance and think critically about the tools at their disposal."

Police chief prominent in heroin addiction debate fired

BOSTON (AP)—A police chief who was honored by the White House for his pioneering approach to heroin addiction was fired on Monday after the mayor accused him of misleading investigators looking into allegations of improper behavior with two women.

Gloucester Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken said she lost confidence in police Chief Leonard Campanello after he destroyed cellphone evidence and took other steps to deceive investigators looking into the complaints. She said she made the decision to begin the termination process "with a heavy heart" but Campanello's actions during the investigation were "entirely unethical and unacceptable."

Campanello gained national recognition for launching the Angel program, which connected heroin addicts with drug treatment without arresting them. The program has helped hundreds of drug addicts get into treatment and has been replicated in dozens of police departments across the country since its June 2015 launch. Campanello was honored in Washington, D.C., as a Champion of Change in April.

Theken said Campanello erased the memory on his city-issued phone and suggested someone else in the police department had taken the phone without his permission and tampered with it. The city's special legal counsel, Lenny Kesten, said investigators later determined Campanello's statements were false and recovered more than 600 text messages between the chief and one of the women.

Los Angeles chief defends 2 fatal weekend shootings

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles police chief on Monday defended the use of deadly force against two men in separate fatal shootings over the weekend, saying one turned toward officers with a gun and the other pointed what looked like a real gun at police.

LAPD Chief Charlie Beck released new details of Saturday's shooting of 18-year-old Carnell Snell in South Los Angeles and a fatal police shooting of an unidentified Hispanic man on Sunday.

The shootings come amid heightened tensions over police actions involving black people and other minorities across the country.

In Snell's shooting, officers tried to pull over a car he was in because it had paper plates that didn't match the year of the vehicle—a possible indication of a stolen car and something commonly seen in drive-by shootings, Beck said.

Snell, seated in the back, looked at officers and then ducked down "as if to hide from them," Beck said.

When officers tried to pull the car over, Snell jumped out holding his waistband and the foot pursuit began, he said.

After a chase of several hundred yards, Beck said, Snell took a gun from his waistband and turned in the direction of the pursuing officers, prompting the shooting.

Snell died at the scene and police recovered a fully loaded semi-automatic gun with one round in the chamber within 5 feet of where Snell lay, Beck said, adding that the weapon had not been fired.

Beck did not say whether one or more officers fired, how close they were to Snell, or whether the car turned out to be stolen.

The officers were not wearing body cameras, but a surveillance video from a business clearly showed Snell was armed, Beck said.

Asia

Indian and Pakistani troops exchange fire in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Indian and Pakistani troops fired at each other in disputed Kashmir on Monday, as Indian troops searched an army camp elsewhere in the region where suspected militants killed an Indian paramilitary soldier.

The exchange of gunfire lasted about five hours and caused no casualties, according to an Indian army officer who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media. The army said earlier that Pakistani troops had fired without provocation using small arms and mortar shells in the Poonch sector of the Line of Control separating the Indian- and Pakistani-controlled parts of Kashmir.

Pakistan's army said in a statement that its troops were responding to unprovoked firing by Indian soldiers.

In Islamabad, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met with the leaders of all Pakistani political parties to discuss the ongoing clashes.

"Our aim is to bring all political parties on one page," Sharif's aide and lawmaker Talal Chaudhry said on Pakistani TV channels. "We want to send a message to the world that we're one against any threat to the country, irrespective of our political differences."

Pakistani political parties hailed an offer by the United Nations last month to send a fact-finding team to review the situation in Indian-controlled Kashmir, a move that India has rejected.

The Indian army camp that was attacked late Sunday in the garrison town of Baramulla is the local headquarters of a counterinsurgency military unit.

Police officer Syed Javeid Mujataba Gillani said it was not immediately known whether the militants tried to enter the camp during their attack, which killed one soldier and wounded another. The town is 50 kilometers (30 miles) northwest of Srinagar, the main city in the portion of Kashmir controlled by India.

Sunday's attack came three days after the Indian army said it had destroyed "terrorist launching pads" used by militants with support from Pakistan. Islamabad denies India's accusations it arms and trains the insurgents, saying it offers moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris.

In another deadly attack in Kashmir last month, suspected rebels sneaked into the army base in the town of Uri and killed 18 Indian soldiers.

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan, which have fought two wars for control of the Himalayan territory since British colonialists left in 1947.

AP

An Indian villager living close to the border with Pakistan sits outside a relief camp set up inside a government run school, after he was evacuated to a safer place on the outskirts of Jammu, India, Monday, Oct. 3, 2016.

China regulators fine OSI Group $3.6M in 2014 meat scandal

HONG KONG (AP)—The Chinese units of a former meat supplier for McDonald's and KFC China have been fined more than $3.6 million for selling expired meat in a fast food safety scandal that erupted two years ago.

It's the latest fallout for OSI Group after a Shanghai TV station reported in 2014 that the company repackaged old beef and chicken under fresher expiration dates.

In a notice posted on its website , the Shanghai Municipal Food and Drug Administration said Monday that district market regulators fined Shanghai Husi Food Co. about 17 million yuan ($2.5 million).

Husi parent OSI Group's China office was hit with a separate fine of 7.3 million yuan ($1.1 million).

Husi and OSI will also face tighter scrutiny from the regulator, though specifics weren't given.

No one answered the phone at OSI and Husi offices in China, where Monday was the start of a week-long holiday. Calls to the regulator's offices also went unanswered.

The penalties come after a Shanghai court's ruling in February that two local units of Aurora, Illinois-based OSI sold the tainted meat and fined them a total of 2.4 million yuan. The court also sentenced 10 employees to prison, one of them Australian.

The company appealed the ruling, but the regulator's notice said the appeal was rejected in July.

Food safety remains a concern for Chinese consumers despite promises from the government to step up enforcement. Other recent high-profile scares include tainted baby formula, fake meat and fruits and even seafood pumped with gelatin.

After the report by Shanghai's Dragon TV aired, Husi customers in China including McDonald's Corp., Yum Brands Inc.'s KFC and Pizza Hut restaurants and Burger King Corp. stopped using its products. The company was forced to lay off 340 workers and the chairman apologized.

Taliban attack Afghan city that briefly fell a year ago

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Taliban launched a large-scale assault Monday on Kunduz, a northern Afghan city that briefly fell to the insurgents a year ago and was only fully liberated weeks later with the help of U.S. airstrikes.

The insurgents reached a central roundabout and hoisted their flag, residents said on condition of anonymity, fearing retribution. But Amruddin Wali, a member of the provincial council, said security forces still control the airport, police headquarters, provincial government offices and the intelligence agency.

"Intense fighting is going on right now at the governor's compound and the NDS (intelligence agency) office," he said.

The Taliban said they had seized the roundabout and several checkpoints, but did not claim to have captured the city.

The heavy fighting forced government offices, schools and shops to close, said Mohammad Yusouf Ayubi, head of the Kunduz provincial council. He said parts of the city were empty and highways to the south and east were closed.

Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said Afghan forces had launched airstrikes on Taliban positions, and were carrying out offensive operations outside the city.

"I totally reject claims that the Taliban have taken over Kunduz city," he said, adding that the insurgents had captured an area to the west.

The Interior Ministry said a policeman was killed and four were wounded in the ongoing fighting.

The attack came as President Ashraf Ghani left for an international aid conference in Brussels, where he expects donors to pledge $3 billion a year through 2020 to aid the country's reconstruction as it continues to wage a 15-year war against the Taliban.

The fall of Kunduz last year marked the Taliban's first capture of an urban center since the group was driven from power by a U.S.-led invasion in 2001. Afghan forces backed by U.S. air power spent around three weeks driving the militants out of the city. Kunduz came under threat again in April, but U.S.-backed Afghan forces fended off the attack, driving the insurgents into surrounding districts.

Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said Monday that the situation in Kunduz "remains fluid." He initially said that the U.S. was carrying out airstrikes in support of Afghan forces there, but later said that only Afghan aircraft had carried out strikes.

He said U.S. special operations forces are working with Afghan forces in Kunduz as well as in the southern Helmand province, where the U.S. has carried out airstrikes.

ASIA BRIEFS

US-PH drills open in uncertainty: Are they the last?

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—U.S. and Philippine forces have opened joint combat exercises that the Philippines' new leader has said will be the last such drills of his six-year presidency. Marine commanders from both sides said at an opening ceremony Tuesday that the exercises are aimed at improving readiness by the two countries to respond to crises while deepening their historic ties. Angered by U.S. criticism of his deadly anti-drug fight, President Rodrigo Duterte said last week that the maneuvers will be the last during his term. His foreign secretary later said the decision wasn't final. Philippine military officials said Tuesday they couldn't answer if the exercises will be the last under Duterte, or whether troops have been affected by his remarks. The eight-day drills involve 1,100 American and 400 Filipino military personnel.

China concerned about death of Syracuse student from Beijing

BEIJING (AP)—China says it's concerned about the death of a Syracuse University student from Beijing whose body was found near his apartment. The Chinese consulate in New York issued a statement Tuesday about the death of 23-year-old Yuan Xiaopeng, a Syracuse student who was found dead after gunshots were reported Friday night at his apartment complex. The local sheriff's office said Saturday that no suspects had been identified. The consulate said it had received assurances that local authorities "attached great importance" to Yuan's case and that they would ensure that Chinese students were safe. It called on Syracuse University to assist relatives of Yuan who were coming to the United States. More than 300,000 Chinese are estimated to be enrolled in American universities.

Tourists lowered to safety after night on Chinese mountain

BEIJING (AP)—Hundreds of tourists have made it safely to the ground after being trapped overnight atop China's Mount Hua when cable car service was suspended. About 200 people were stranded Monday night when high winds forced the cable car operator to stop running cars up and down Mount Hua's west peak, more than 2,000 meters high (6,560 feet). Photos shared on the company's social media account show tourists huddled in the aisles where passengers wait to board the cable car. The company said it had provided raincoats, warm ginger soup and hot water to those waiting. The cars resumed running Tuesday morning after the winds died down. The incident occurred during China's annual National Week, a seven-day holiday in which many tourist attractions see their highest traffic of the year.

World

Putin suspends weapons-grade plutonium deal with US

MOSCOW (AP)—President Vladimir Putin on Monday suspended a deal with the United States on the disposal of weapons-grade plutonium, once a symbol of U.S.-Russian rapprochement that has fallen apart amid tensions over Ukraine, Syria and other disputes.

A strain in ties between the former Cold War rivals has escalated in recent weeks followed the collapse of a truce in Syria and the Syrian army's massive onslaught in Aleppo under the cover of Russian warplanes.

Separately, the State Department said it was suspending bilateral contacts with Russia over Syria, following Secretary of State John Kerry's threat to suspend contacts amid new attacks on the city of Aleppo.

Putin's decree cited as reasons for Moscow's move the "emerging threat to strategic stability as a result of U.S. unfriendly actions," as well as Washington's failure to meet its end of the deal. It said, however, that Russia will keep the weapons-grade plutonium covered under the agreement away from weapons programs.

AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, walks with Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Sergei Donskoi on arrival in the Urals city of Orenburg, about 1300 kilometers (800 miles) southeast of Moscow, Russia, Monday, Oct. 3, 2016.

Under the agreement, which was signed in 2000 and expanded in 2006 and 2010, Russia and the U.S. each were to dispose of 34 metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium, enough material for about 17,000 nuclear warheads.

When it was signed, the deal was touted as an example of successful cooperation on nuclear nonproliferation between Washington and Moscow.

Russia said last year it had started up a plant that produces mixed-oxide commercial nuclear reactor fuel known as MOX from weapons-grade plutonium. Meanwhile, the construction of a similar U.S. plant in South Carolina has been years behind schedule and billions of dollars over budget.

The U.S. administration wants to cancel the Savannah River Site's MOX project and use an alternative method for disposing of excess plutonium.

Putin pointed to the stalled plant construction earlier this year when he accused the U.S. of failing to meet its end of the deal. He also argued that the policy change would give the U.S. "return potential," or a chance to recycle the material back into the weapons-grade plutonium.

"Russia has been observing the agreement unilaterally for quite a long time, but now it no longer sees such a situation as possible amid the tensions," Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

Sergei Kiriyenko, head of the state-controlled Rosatom nuclear corporation, said Monday that while MOX makes sure that weapons-grade plutonium can't be used for any military purposes, the U.S. intention to dilute and stockpile the material means "it could be dug up again."

Turkey-backed Syrian rebels lose 15 in battles with IS

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Fighting in northern Syria between Turkey-backed Syrian rebels and Islamic State militants killed at least 15 rebels as the opposition pressed toward a town of symbolic importance for the extremists, an activist group and Turkish officials said Monday.

The Syrian government continued to strike besieged, rebel-held parts of eastern Aleppo, hitting the area's largest hospital, according to activists. A monitoring group said more than 400 civilians have been killed in and around Aleppo since the collapse of a U.S. and Russian-brokered cease-fire two weeks ago, mainly in the rebel-held east.

In central Syria, meanwhile, two suicide bombers struck the city of Hama close to an office of President Bashar Assad's Baath party, killing three people and wounding at least 11, state news agency SANA said. IS claimed responsibility in an online statement.

SANA said a suicide bomber detonated his explosives-packed belt in Hama's al-Assi Square, and another suicide bomber struck 15 minutes later. One of SANA's photographers, Ibrahim Ajaj, was wounded as he was covering the explosions, the agency said, adding that he is in stable condition.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the two explosions killed three people and wounded 14.

Suicide attacks in government-held areas are not uncommon, but blasts in the city of Hama, which is firmly under the control of Assad's forces, have been rare. The twin bombings came as various insurgent groups have been on the offensive north of the city.

Another suicide bombing struck a wedding outside the northeastern Syrian city of Hassakeh, killing at least 30 people, according to the SANA state news agency. SANA said 90 people were wounded, including its own correspondent in the area. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Airstrike kills al-Qaida-linked commander in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—A senior commander in Syria's rebranded al-Qaida affiliate, who was close to the global network's top leader Ayman al-Zawahri, has been killed in an airstrike, the group said Monday.

The Fatah al-Sham Front, previously known as the Nusra Front, announced the death of Ahmed Salama Mabrouk shortly after the Pentagon said the U.S. had targeted a prominent member of the group in Syria.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Peter Cook said Mabrouk was targeted in the airstrike by U.S. forces, but did not confirm his death, saying that the results of the strike are still being assessed.

"His death, if confirmed, would disrupt and degrade coordination among senior AQ leaders and extremists," Cook said.

A Twitter account run by the Fatah al-Sham Front said that Mabrouk, a veteran Egyptian jihadist also known as Abu Farag al-Masri, was killed in the northern Idlib province, which is controlled by an insurgent alliance that includes the Fatah al-Sham Front.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which relies on a network of activists inside Syria, said Mabrouk was killed when his vehicle was struck near the border with Turkey.

Another senior commander from the group, Abu Omar Saraqib, was killed in an airstrike last month.

Mabrouk was imprisoned in his native Egypt in 1981 in the sweep following the assassination of President Anwar Sadat. He later traveled to Afghanistan, where he became close to al-Zawahri before traveling to Syria earlier this year.

Fatah al-Sham recently announced it was changing its name and severing ties with al-Qaida in a video in which Mabrouk sat next to the group's top leader, Abu Mohammed al-Golani.

But in part because of the presence of al-Qaida veterans like Mabrouk among its ranks, most experts still view the group as an al-Qaida affiliate, and both the United States and Russia have vowed to keep striking it.

Top African wildlife park looks to villages to stop poachers

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, South Africa (AP)—On the edge of South Africa's largest wildlife reserve, the line between poacher and park ranger can be uncomfortably thin. Sometimes, Marianne de Kock watches it disappear.

She oversees young South Africans during a yearlong ranger training and, on the final day, she looks graduates in the eye.

"Have you ever poached?" she asks. Some admit they have. "Give me three poachers' names," she says. And they do.

As teams of poachers stalk rhinos and elephants in Kruger National Park, nearly the size of Israel, wildlife officials are turning to nearby communities to help stop the slaughter.

The carcasses of more than 450 poached rhinos have been found in the park between January and the end of August, and elephant poaching is growing. Both are top issues at the conference of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, which ends Wednesday in Johannesburg.

The aim is to use local knowledge to deter poachers, not join them. In the two South African provinces where the park is located, Mpumalanga and Limpopo, the official unemployment rates were 29 percent and 18 percent early this year.

While well-off tourists with expensive gear bounce through the park on game drives and stay at upscale lodges, their money often doesn't make it to villagers. Poaching becomes an attraction.

At the Southern African Wildlife College on the edge of the park, a new government-funded job program is training 119 young men and women "living in marginalized areas" to become field rangers and guides in wildlife reserves that are often near their homes.

"You get the poorest of the poor," de Kock said. Some who apply have never heard of wildlife conservation. They just want a job.

The applicants first must pass a week-long, military-style selection course that includes not being allowed to sleep more than two hours at a time. By day three, people are dropping out.

The trainers have learned to spot signs of determination, such as the hopefuls who arrive in borrowed sneakers a size or more too small. Day by day, pieces of the shoes are cut away to make room for fresh blisters.

Focus

AP: 'Apprentice' cast and crew say Trump was lewd and sexist

NEW YORK (AP)—In his years as a reality TV boss on "The Apprentice," Donald Trump repeatedly demeaned women with sexist language, according to show insiders who said he rated female contestants by the size of their breasts and talked about which ones he'd like to have sex with.

The Associated Press interviewed more than 20 people—former crew members, editors and contestants—who described crass behavior by Trump behind the scenes of the long-running hit show, in which aspiring capitalists were given tasks to perform as they competed for jobs working for him.

The staffers and contestants agreed to recount their experiences as Trump's behavior toward women has become a core issue in the presidential campaign. Interviewed separately, they gave concurring accounts of inappropriate conduct on the set.

Eight former crew members recalled that he repeatedly made lewd comments about a camerawoman he said had a nice rear, comparing her beauty to that of his daughter, Ivanka.

During one season, Trump called for female contestants to wear shorter dresses that also showed more cleavage, according to contestant Gene Folkes. Several cast members said Trump had one female contestant twirl before him so he could ogle her figure.

Randal Pinkett, who won the program in December 2005 and who has recently criticized Trump during his run for president, said he remembered the real estate mogul talking about which female contestants he wanted to sleep with, even though Trump had married former model Melania Knauss earlier that year: "He was like 'Isn't she hot, check her out,' kind of gawking, something to the effect of 'I'd like to hit that.' "

The Trump campaign issued a general denial. "These outlandish, unsubstantiated, and totally false claims fabricated by publicity hungry, opportunistic, disgruntled former employees, have no merit whatsoever," said Hope Hicks, Trump's campaign spokeswoman. "The Apprentice was one of the most successful prime-time television shows of all time and employed hundreds of people over many years, many of whom support Mr. Trump's candidacy." She declined to answer specific questions that were emailed and declined an interview request.

Former producer Katherine Walker said Trump frequently talked about women's bodies during the five seasons she worked with him and said he speculated about which female contestant would be "a tiger in bed."

A former crew member who signed a non-disclosure agreement and asked not to be identified, recalled that Trump asked male contestants whether they would sleep with a particular female contestant, then expressed his own interest.

"We were in the boardroom one time figuring out who to blame for the task, and he just stopped in the middle and pointed to someone and said, 'You'd f... her, wouldn't you? I'd f... her. C'mon, wouldn't you?'"

The person continued: "Everyone is trying to make him stop talking, and the woman is shrinking in her seat."

Other cast and crew interviewed said they had positive, professional experiences with Trump, and added that they had never heard comments that made them uncomfortable.

"He was extremely supportive. You could tell there was so much respect there on all sides, especially with the female athletes," said contestant and U.S. softball star Jennie Finch, a two-time Olympian. "Obviously, he was complimentary, but never in an inappropriate way."

Contestant Poppy Carlig, who performed the twirl, said she considered Trump's request "playful banter." She added: "I don't immediately jump to the conclusion that people are having bad intentions with what they are saying. He said I reminded him of his daughter and I thought that was really touching because I know how much he values his family."

Twelve former contestants or members of the crew spoke on the record about what they described as Trump's inappropriate behavior. Another nine spoke to the AP about their concerns regarding Trump's treatment of female colleagues but said they did not want to be identified because they signed non-disclosure agreements, or were concerned about wrecking their careers or retaliation from Trump.

Most offered no opinion on the November election in the course of their interviews, but the majority of those who did said only that they were not supporting Trump.

Trump points to his record of hiring women, but he has often been accused of sexist behavior; at the first Republican debate, in August 2015, Fox anchor Megyn Kelly asked whether a man who has called women "fat pigs, dogs, slobs and disgusting animals" has the temperament to be president. After that debate, Trump attacked Kelly and her questioning, "You could see there was blood coming out of her eyes. Blood coming out of her wherever."

AP

Gene Folkes of Wylie, Texas, a candidate on the reality television show "The Apprentice," speaks during an interview in the north Atlanta suburb of Johns Creek, Ga., on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016. In portions of boardroom sessions never broadcast, Donald Trump frequently would ask male contestants to rate the attractiveness of their female competitors, former crew members and contestants said. Folkes, who appeared on the program in 2010, says, "If you didn't answer, he would dig in and say 'Do you think so and so is attractive? Would you sleep with her? Well, what about if you really had to, would you?' … It was so bizarre, because he (otherwise) seemed so professional."

The remarks of former Miss Universe Alicia Machado, who said Trump called her "Miss Piggy" because she'd gained weight during her reign, became campaign fodder last week following the first presidential debate. Trump used to own the pageant.

NBC, which broadcast the hit series, referred questions to executive producer Mark Burnett, whose studio referred calls to a public relations firm. The public relations firm did not respond to multiple voicemails and emails seeking comment. AP previously asked Burnett to provide original footage for review, but those calls were not returned.

Debuting in 2004, "The Apprentice" and a spinoff, "Celebrity Apprentice," propelled Trump to national stardom following a string of bankruptcies and bad business deals in the 1990s that had splintered his New York-based real estate empire. The series, meant to showcase Trump's business acumen, became a major hit and Trump's name became a global brand that helped launch his political career.

But on the set, usually inside Trump Tower, the former cast and crew members say, the businessman's treatment of women was sometimes far from professional.

Walker, who said she was the only high-level female producer during the first season, said Trump turned to her during a break outside of the control room to ask who he should fire. Walker demurred, she said, but noted that team members had told her one contestant had caused her team to lose their business task. Trump raised his hands and cupped them to his chest to ask whether it was a contestant with large breasts, she said.

"He said, 'You mean the one with the'—and he puts his hands out in a gesture to signal the girl with the giant boobs. He didn't even know her name," Walker said, adding that the contestant, Kristi Frank, was fired at the end of the episode.

"I thought he noticed my hard work, but I guess he didn't," said Frank, a former restaurant owner who studied industrial engineering.

She said that after Trump delivered his punch line "You're fired!" he told her fiancé that "of all the girls," she was the contestant he would have chosen to marry.

"It makes me a little sick," Frank said. "It's kind of sweet, but it makes me feel like 'OK, he's checking me out again.'"

In portions of boardroom sessions never broadcast, Trump frequently would ask male contestants to rate the attractiveness of their female competitors, former crew members and contestants said.

"If there was a break in the conversation, he would then look at one of the female cast members, saying 'you're looking kind of hot today, I love that dress on you,' then he would turn to one of the male cast members and say 'wouldn't you sleep with her?' and then everyone would laugh," said a former crew member who spoke on condition of anonymity because of a non-disclosure agreement. "There would be about 10 or 12 cameras rolling and getting that footage, which is why everybody was like, this guy just doesn't care."

Trump would carry on with the questions even if all involved were married, said Gene Folkes, who appeared on the program in 2010.

"If you didn't answer, he would dig in and say, 'Do you think so and so is attractive? Would you sleep with her? Well, what about if you really had to, would you?'" Folkes said. "It was so bizarre, because he (otherwise) seemed so professional."

Folkes said he also remembered that Trump "asked one of the women their breast size at one point, or said, 'are those real or natural?'"

Jim Dowd, who did public relations for Trump, NBC and "The Apprentice" shows between 2003 and 2009, said Trump was a "lover of women" and a "guy's guy."

"Was he complimenting the women? Of course. Was he behind closed doors with just the guys rating the women, who were the hotter ones on the show? Yes, he certainly was prone to that," said Dowd, who was interviewed before his September 18 death.

"I never heard him say anything about women's bodies, but he was definitely unscripted," said former producer Michael Dietz.

Eight former crew members said Trump took a fancy to a particular female camera operator, and frequently gave her attention that made many on the set feel uncomfortable. Two former crew members said the woman made it clear to them privately that she did not like Trump's comments.

Walker, the former producer, said it was clear Trump was attracted to the camera operator as far back as 2003.

"He said something like she was cute and she had a nice ass, and it was brought to my attention by someone else that he had a crush on her," Walker said. "We all knew, so that's uncomfortable in and of itself. I remember it being too much, that he made it obvious."

Rebecca Arndt, a camera assistant who worked on the show following Trump's 2005 marriage, said Trump would stop production to make comments about the camera operator's looks in front of the crew.

"I remember being in the foyer once with eight or 10 cameras set up and he said something about her being so pretty," Arndt said. "He would make it about his line of sight, like 'There is a beautiful woman behind that camera, so I only want to look at that.' It was supposed to be considered a compliment, but of course it was inappropriate."

German Abarca, another former camera operator, said most of the camera crew knew that Trump was attracted to their colleague.

Abarca said the woman was the frequent subject of ribbing by others in the crew, almost all of whom were much younger than Trump. "I think she mostly tried to ignore it."

Arndt said that Trump would publicly discuss the woman's beauty and how her blue eyes and blonde hair compared to his daughter Ivanka's looks.

"He would just mention it all the time. I remember him comparing Ivanka to her and saying that only Ivanka was prettier," she said.

The woman did not respond to a voicemail seeking comment. The AP spoke in person twice with her husband, who said his wife did not wish to be interviewed, "doesn't have a problem with Donald Trump" and denied she had been subjected to repeated, unwanted attention from Trump.

One former contestant, Tyana Alvarado, said she wasn't offended when Trump told her she was attractive—but noted that he played by his own rules.

"Most men have to behave because they are in a workplace, but he could do what he wanted," Alvarado said. "In all jobs, people have to sign sexual harassment paperwork, but Mr. Trump was putting on a TV show so he got to do it."

Good Housekeeping

Diggin' In:

Native beauties provide food, shelter for wildlife

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

For years, I fought the urge to plant shrubs, trees and perennials in late spring to early summer.

Even though garden centers lush with new varieties tempted me, I decided planting anything after March was doomed to die, given our increasingly hot and dry summers.

This summer's record temperatures and dry conditions reinforce that feeling.

Trees, shrubs and perennials planted now through late October still have warm soil and good growing conditions for root establishment. Winter's rains and spring's mild temperatures give them even more chance of surviving next summer's heat.

I've also turned my attention to mostly native species in my garden. Gardeners at the Virginia Living Museum in Newport News, Va., agree that native plants are the best choices because they have weathered the good, the bad and the ugly. They also provide food and shelter for local wildlife, especially bees, butterflies and birds.

3 MUST-HAVE NATIVE PLANTS

Here are three native plants with fall interest that living museum's gardeners recommend; you can plant them now:

TNS
A green coneflower.

■ Beautyberry, Callicarpa americana

Bloom time: June-July, August-October.

Description: Pale lavender flowers, and hot-raspberry-pink fruit clusters that persist after the leaves fall; grows five feet tall.

Needs: Sun to part shade, and average to poor, well-drained, medium-wet soil. Cold hardy Zones 5-8.

Care: Flowers and fruit form on new growth, so cut back every few years after the fruit is gone to maintain size and good fruit set.

Wildlife benefits: Birds, catbirds and mockingbirds especially

TNS
A Beautyberry.

■ Late-blooming boneset Eupatorium serotinum

Bloom time: August-November

Description: Tiny white flowers in fuzzy clusters; grows one to three feet tall. Deer resistant.

Needs: Part shade, and moist sandy or clay soil. Cold hardy Zones 5-8.

Wildlife benefit: Butterflies and birds.

■ Green coneflower Rudbeckia laciniata

Bloom time: July-September

Description: Large yellow daisy with domed green center; grows two to six feet tall.

Needs: Sun-shade, and average, well-drained/medium soil. Grows tall in sun, shorter in shade. Cut back halfway before buds form to get shorter, bushier plants. Spreads by seed. Cold hardy Zones 3-8.

Wildlife benefits: Butterflies and goldfinches.

Kathy Van Mullekom is the garden/home columnist for the Daily Press in Newport News, Va. Follow her on Facebook@Kathy Hogan Van Mullekom, on Twitter @diggindirt and at Pinterest@diggininn. Her blog can be read at Diggin@RoomandYard.com

Daphne Oz's cookbook aims for weekend cooking on weekdays

By LYNN ELBER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Weekday cooking is fast, frazzled and too often defrosted. Weekend cooking, at its best, is relaxed, fresh and tempting.

Daphne Oz seeks to close the gap in her new book, "The Happy Cook," with 125 recipes that she says are practical enough for Monday through Friday while still tasty and adaptable enough to satisfy a variety of eaters and food concerns.

For TV's "The Chew" co-host, cooking at its best is an act of love and personal fulfillment, something she learned from her mother and grandmother.

She marvels at their "ability to be happy cooks, to have fun in the kitchen, to see it as release and freedom and as a place that was about them having confidence, and being a little bit wild and crazy," said Oz, daughter of doctor-TV personality Mehmet Oz ("The Dr. Oz Show").

Her cookbook has recipes including 10-minute breakfast tacos; balsamic onion and pear grilled cheese sandwiches; sweet corn ravioli; cider-braised brisket; honey-lime chicken wings and—wait for it—chocolate dulce de leche layer cake.

Most call for a reasonable number of ingredients. Others require a fair amount of food prep but also rely on bottled or home-made condiments kept on hand. The photos, whether of nicely plated dishes or idyllic shots of Oz at home with her family, are definitely aspirational.

In an interview, Oz discussed the logistics of making enticing, healthy food while juggling home and work demands, and why she believes counting calories isn't the way to go.

Associated Press: How can parents manage weekday cooking, which might include catering to child and adult tastes, without running screaming from the kitchen?

Oz: Don't make a different meal for every person, but make buildable meals. And, I do this with my kids, try to expand their palates gently. I'll make a basic lentil soup, which is still pretty advanced, with garlic and sweet potatoes and spices. And then make a spicy chili cumin oil for my husband and me to drizzle on top. It feels like an adult meal and a child's meal and doesn't cost me anything extra (in time).

AP: With fresh ingredients, especially veggies, there is potentially daunting chopping involved.

Oz: Having been to culinary school, the single greatest asset I learned there was how to cut and chop properly. It's an investment of money that will save you hours of time down the road, and hopefully some cut fingers. ... I would say even if you start small, start with one element of the meal that you make from scratch that night, and it will make a big difference nutritionally. Even more than that, I think it sets the tone for your family coming together and having a meal together.

AP: Are you concerned the cookbook might be pigeon-holed as suited to those with time and money to spare and easy access to fresh food?

Oz: I looked at all the things I was making on a regular basis and a lot of times I simplified. ... I tried to pay close attention to the reality that no one wants to go out and shop 20 ingredients for every meal they're gonna make. And let's not focus on specialty ingredients, but those homemade flavor-boosters you keep on hand that don't cost you much but that will really elevate your meals. I've tried to strive to make it not something just for the affluent, or people who have a grocery store around the block everywhere they go.

AP: The recipes don't include calorie counts or other nutritional information. Was that a deliberate choice?

Oz: It was. (As a college student trying to lose weight) I tried every diet under the sun and none of them worked but, more importantly, they were robbing me of my love of food. ... Once I got to a healthy place where I could know what would make me feel great and let me indulge when I needed to, I never wanted to go back to a place where I was exclusively thinking about a numbers game. ... My goal with these recipes is that you don't have to think about the numbers because the quality of it and the quantity I'm advising you to eat is something that can easily be part of a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Life & Style

Kim Kardashian
detailed flashy Paris trip to the world

"Can you guys guess where I'm at?"

So teased Kim Kardashian West recently on her massively popular social media streams, where she freely shares her glamorous life. She was talking about Paris Fashion Week, and she telegraphed her moves to millions, from the mundane (a room service order) to the fabulous (fittings with designers and her usual front-row perch next to other rich and famous folk)—all before armed robbers broke into her flat, tied her up and fled with more than $10 million of her jewels early Monday.

Did the reality star provide them with a map via Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram and her for-pay phone app? In answering her teased question, she told the world: "In a private room, after the Balmain show."

Was it the same room at a private residence where Paris police said the crime occurred? That's unclear, for in this reality star's life, there are many private rooms, and much to share.

■ ■ ■ ■

Paris police are hunting for five suspected assailants after the robbery, which has raised new concerns about security in the French capital after a string of deadly extremist attacks.

But Johanna Primevert, chief spokeswoman for the Paris police department, said the attack on Kardashian West shouldn't put off anyone thinking of coming to Paris.

"This kind of incident is extremely rare in Paris. This is a star who is famous worldwide. Do not confuse what happened to Ms. Kardashian and probably was the result of an organized team who had planned their action with the assault of a tourist in front of Notre Dame (cathedral) or another tourist spot in Paris," Primevert said in an interview with the AP at the Paris police headquarters Monday night.

The police spokeswoman suggested possible imprudence from Kardashian West in showing her valuable jewels on social networks and a possible lack of security in that private residence.

"Clearly when you have a star like Kim Kardashian who has, I think, more than 48 million followers on Twitter ... I think this could have happened abroad just as easily as in Paris. It was really the celebrity who was targeted, with possessions that had been seen and noticed via social media, and it was these goods that the attackers targeted," Primevert said.

"It's not the safety in Paris that is involved, it's maybe the security situation in that residence", she insisted.

Primevert said the robbery was "the result of people who obviously posed as policemen." Police and authorities were not aware that Kardashian West was staying in that private location, Primevert said.

■ ■ ■ ■

As details of the heist continued to surface, and as Kardashian West made her way to New York on a private jet after the harrowing holdup, one thing is clear: She was excited to be in Paris for fashion week; her Snapchats and Instagram posts were filled with exclamation points and emojis.

On Saturday, she was front row at Balmain with sister Kourtney, mom Kris Jenner and Jenner's boyfriend, Corey Gamble. She titled that Instagram photo of her and Kourtney as "Sister Slay."

On Sunday morning, there was Balenciaga, followed by Givenchy, where another sister, Kendall Jenner, walked the runway with Kim seated next to Courtney Love. At Givenchy, she was photographed in a black dress with fur trim and a fur wrap: "GIVENCHY COUTURE" she captioned the Instagram picture.

And before that, there was a packing-for-Paris selfie and her fittings with Olivier Rousteing, her friend and Balmain's creative director, followed by her so-called "no makeup" tweet from Balenciaga as she stood in a belted kaki trench coat pulled down at the shoulders to reveal her famous decolletage.

The high priestess of the selfie, who has a fondness for showing off her bling, also last week tweeted a close up of a dainty gold grill on her teeth, her blindingly massive diamond ring on her hand and her cleavage on view in a barely there black top.

Was the ring, a gift from hubby Kanye West, among the jewels now lost?

Providing security to celebrities in this era of social media is difficult. At Sunset Protective Services & Investigations, which includes event security and bodyguards for hire in the Los Angeles area, the added headache of constant online updates complicates safety precautions.

"Our view on this is that we want everything as low-key and as quiet as possible, obviously," said Tim Hayes, a retired Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy. "When you have someone like the Kardashian family, they even have programs documenting their every move, it makes it that much more difficult."

It was Sept. 27 that Kardashian West flashed double peace signs on Twitter as she revealed she was Paris-bound from New York. During her time in Paris, she told fans on Snapchat what she was doing, whether headed to a party or sitting at home.

Johanna Primevert, chief spokeswoman for the Paris police department, said Kardashian's social media profile did her no favors.

"It was really the celebrity who was targeted, with possessions that had been seen and noticed via social media, and it was these goods that the attackers targeted," she said.

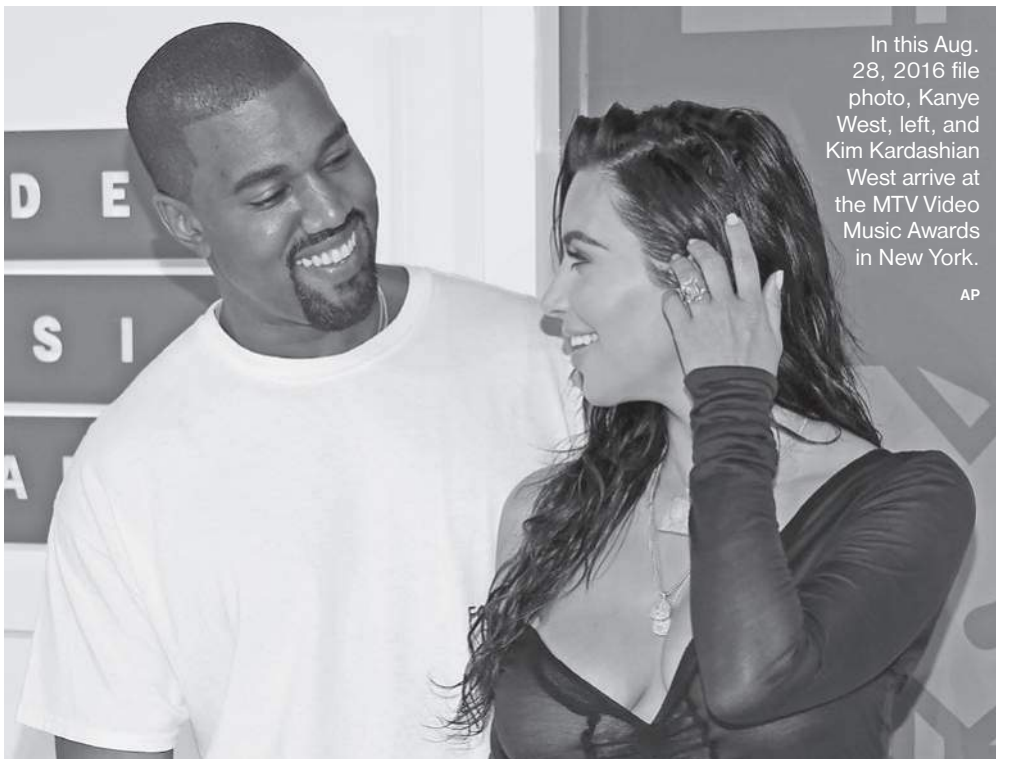
The head of Sunset, John Perry, who is also a retired sheriff's deputy in Los Angeles, added: "Publicity is how they make their living. They're not going to lose money and travel incognito. You've got to basically comply with the clients' wishes and try and be as proactive as you can."

In one tweet during her whirlwind Paris trip, Kardashian West jokingly lamented: "This guy is always in my shot!" She was referring to bodyguard Pascal Duvier as she walked a Paris street in the trench coat and a pair of thigh-high black leather boots.

Was Duvier on hand the night of the heist, let go for the evening, when Kardashian West was robbed? Kardashian's stylist was there at the time and alerted police, but her bodyguard was not, according to the prosecutor's office.

A spokeswoman for Kardashian West said she was badly shaken but physically unharmed after the Paris ordeal. Asked how Kim was doing, Kris Jenner flashed a thumbs-up sign as she and Gamble left the New York building where Kardashian West retreated after her return from Paris later Monday.

Meanwhile, Paris police hunted for five suspected assailants in the armed theft that raised new concerns about security in the French capital after a string of deadly extremist attacks.



In this Aug. 28, 2016 file photo, Kanye West, left, and Kim Kardashian West arrive at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York. AP

The thieves, dressed as police officers, entered the 19th-century luxury residence in Paris' chic eighth district after the concierge let them in about 2:30 a.m. local time Monday, according to two police officials. Handcuffed and at gunpoint, the concierge led them to Kardashian West's flat.

After tying her up and leaving her in the bathroom, the robbers escaped on bikes, the officials said. They were not authorized while speaking about ongoing investigations.

The officials said the five suspects stole a jewelry box containing valuables worth 6 million euros ($6.7 million) as well as a ring worth 4 million euros ($4.5 million). In a message to The Associated Press, the Paris prosecutor's office said that only two of the five forced their way into the apartment.

Kardashian West's two young children were not with her at the time of the robbery. Hubby Kanye had been at her side in Paris earlier in the week but returned to New York for a concert, cutting it short on stage due to a "family emergency" that turned out to be his wife's holdup.

But were the cameras there? The ones that are ever-present for the family's "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" E! show? ***(AP)***

Celebrating a Life

In Loving Memory of

Elenita Galeza Francisco

Born on July 4, 1966
Called to eternal life on September 24, 2016

Beloved Wife of Wilfredo and Loving Mother of Philip, Sheena, Mico, Ralph, Neil, Alvin, Wilfredo Jr., Samantha, Shakira, Sharmaine, Troy and Savannah Mae. Elenita worked and called Saipan her home for the past 22 years.

Everyone is invited to join the family for a Memorial Service in her honor, to be held on October 7, 2016, 10:00 a.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

Your presence will be greatly appreciated!

Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay, Maraming Salamat Po!

Francisco Family

Official: Prince probe focuses on doctors, black market

AP
In this May 19, 2013, file photo, Prince performs at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—More than five months after Prince's fatal drug overdose, investigators have narrowed their focus to two main questions: whether doctors illegally prescribed opioids meant for the pop star and whether the fentanyl that killed him came from a black-market source, a law enforcement official said.

Those lines of inquiry raise the prospect that a doctor or doctors could be charged with writing unlawful prescriptions and that a separate suspect or set of suspects with ties to narcotics trafficking could be charged with supplying the fatal dose.

Prince was 57 when he was found April 21 in an elevator at his suburban Minneapolis studio and estate. Authorities have revealed little publicly about their investigation, saying only that the probe is ongoing.

The law enforcement official who described the investigation has knowledge of the inquiry but spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to comment on the record. The person declined to provide any additional details.

Investigations of fatal overdoses can be lengthy and complex, especially when drug traffickers or other underworld figures are involved.

Ryan Pacyga, a Minneapolis criminal defense attorney who is not connected to the Prince case, said law enforcement is not going to rush unless there is a risk to the public or immediate danger to others.

In typical drug cases, investigators will subpoena documents including computer files, emails and financial records. When looking at where the fentanyl came from, they will "follow the money" and look at orders, shipments and the bank accounts or credit cards that made payments, Pacyga said.

They will also identify people they want to speak with.

"They'll interview from the bottom up," Pacyga said. "They'll talk to the people who really don't have much criminal exposure and keep working their way up to who they think the big wrongdoers are."

Notable drugs cases are often prosecuted in federal, not state, court.

Among the most serious federal charges a person who supplied the fentanyl could face—be it a doctor, trafficker or friend—is opioid distribution resulting in death, which carries a mandatory minimum of 20 years in prison. Under Minnesota law, anyone who gave Prince the fentanyl that killed him could face a potential third-degree murder charge, even if that person did not know the pills contained the drug.

Fentanyl, which is 50 times more potent than heroin, can be obtained as a legal painkiller with a prescription. But some findings in Prince's case point to an illegal source, including evidence that some pills taken from his home after he died were counterfeit drugs that were marked as a generic version of Vicodin but actually contained fentanyl, an official close to the investigation told the AP in August. That official also spoke on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing investigation.

Even when it is produced legally by pharmaceutical manufacturers, fentanyl can be obtained illegally in many ways. A doctor can prescribe it to someone who then passes it on to a third person or prescriptions can be forged.

The official who spoke in August said Prince did not have a prescription for any controlled substances in Minnesota in the last 12 months.

Prince had a reputation for clean living, and some friends said they never saw any sign of drug use. But longtime friend and collaborator Sheila E. has said Prince had hip and knee problems that she said came from years of jumping off risers and stage speakers in heels.

The death of one of the most influential musicians of the modern era has drawn public attention to a startling increase in fentanyl overdoses. Most of the deaths are linked not to prescriptions but to illicitly made fentanyl pills or fentanyl that has been mixed with and sold as heroin, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As little as 2 milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal and those who make it illicitly are not meticulous about how much fentanyl goes in each pill. Traffickers often pass the pills off as Oxycontin or some other name-brand opioid, so, if Prince took a counterfeit pill, he may not have known it contained fentanyl.

Determining whether the last person to hand or send the fentanyl to Prince knew it was fentanyl is probably one of the most difficult questions for investigators. Legal experts say evidence of such direct knowledge can be critical, but isn't necessary, to bring charges.

Another possibility is that Prince ordered the drugs himself online. Some online distributors accept orders through dark-net sites, then deliver the drugs by unsuspecting mail-service companies.

If traffickers bear responsibility for the fatal fentanyl, identifying them could be difficult, even impossible.

Kardashian joins string of big jewel heist victims

PARIS (AP)—Kim Kardashian West joined a line of victims of major jewel heists when armed robbers entered her Paris residence, chained her to bathroom furnishings and escaped with jewels worth an estimated $10 million. Other thieves have outwitted armed guards and alarm systems or cut through an airport fence or to seize their loot.

Some spectacular jewel thefts in recent memory:

FASHION WEEK FRIGHT

Armed robbers forced their way early Monday into a private Paris residence where Kim Kardashian West was staying and tied her up, police officials said. They said five assailants, who are still at large, stole a jewelry box containing valuables worth 6 million euros ($6.7 million) as well as a ring worth 4 million euros ($4.5 million.)

A spokeswoman for Kardashian West said the reality TV star, who was in Paris attending fashion week shows, was badly shaken but physically unharmed. She left soon afterward for New York.

Flashing bling has gotten other celebrities in trouble, too.

A reported $3 million worth of jewelry were taken from a tour bus being used by "Hotline Bling" rapper Drake and DJ Future the Prince while they were performing earlier this year in the U.S. city of Phoenix. According to police, the suspect had removed a briefcase containing the jewelry in a window of 15 minutes while the performers were on stage. Police later recovered the goods by identifying a suspect through surveillance footage.

OFFSCREEN DRAMA AT CANNES

Cannes is known not only for its film festival glamour but also for police drama.

In 2013 thieves stole Chopard jewelry from a hotel room safe during the festival, a crime that drew parallels to Sofia Coppola's "The Bling Ring," which was screening that year.

Two months later, a lone gunman pulled off one of the biggest jewelry heists of all time, stealing $136 million worth of diamond jewelry from Cannes' Carlton Hotel—a location for Alfred Hitchcock's classic "To Catch a Thief."

In 2015, raiders—one wearing an old-man mask—walked into the Cartier boutique on Cannes' Croisette seaside promenade in the middle of the morning, and walked out with millions of dollars' worth of jewelry and watches.

AIRPORT HEISTS

In a carefully planned 2013 theft, thieves cut through a fence at the Brussels airport, drove to a Switzerland-bound plane and snatched an estimated $50 million in diamonds.

In 2005, thieves threatened guards and hijacked an armored car from Dutch carrier KLM's cargo ramp at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport, a major European transport hub making off with millions in diamonds and jewelry. Subsequent media reports put the value of the loot at up to $100 million. "It was a secured area of the airport, so it's a big question how those people could get there," an airline spokesman said at the time.

POSH TRICKSTERS AND CROSS-DRESSING CROOKS

In 2009, two elegantly dressed men robbed the Graff Diamond Store in London's high-end Mayfair district and carried away necklaces, watches, rings and bracelets worth more than 40 million pounds ($62 million at today's exchange rate), according to Scotland Yard.

While Christmas shoppers stroll outside the posh Harry Winston jewelry shop near Paris' famed Champs-Elysees in 2008, armed thieves—some dressed as women and wearing wigs—entered the store and stole gems and jeweled watches worth up to $85 million, according to French police.

THE BIG SCORE

Robbers taped over security cameras, disabled the alarm system and broke into the high-security underground vaults of the Diamond Center in Antwerp, the world capital of diamond-cutting, getting away with an estimated $100 million in goods in 2003.

After prying open 123 of the 160 vaults, the thieves stood ankle-deep in a pile of diamonds, gold, jewelry, stocks, bonds, cash and lockboxes, police said. The bounty was so abundant they had to leave a lot behind.

All 8 Harry Potter films returning to theaters

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The entire Harry Potter series is set to return to the big screen later this month.

Warner Bros. says all eight Harry Potter films will screen in IMAX theaters for a one-week run beginning Oct. 13. It will mark the first-time that the first two films in the series, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" and "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," will be screened in IMAX.

The re-release of the Potter films comes ahead of "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," a prequel of the Potter series that stars Eddie Redmayne and is set to hit theaters next month.

Lindsay Lohan says she lost part of finger in boat accident

Lindsay Lohan says she had surgery to reattach part of her finger following a boating accident.

The actress posted a video of her hand with a bandaged ring finger Sunday on Snapchat. She says on the video, "This is the result of me trying to anchor the boat by myself," adding, "My poor finger!" Lohan explained in a caption on the video that she lost half her finger during the accident. She says the detached piece was found and she had surgery "to fix it."

The 30-year-old later poked fun at herself on Instagram , posting a picture with the caption, "One handed selfie."

Lohan didn't say where or when the accident happened, but Turkish media report it took place in the southwestern resort town of Bodrum.

AP

In this Sept. 30, 2014, file photo, actress Lindsay Lohan performs a scene from the play, "Speed the Plow," during a photocall at the Playhouse Theatre in central London.

Private news channel NTV reports that friends recovered the finger and Lohan was rushed to a hospital for surgery.

Lohan was in Istanbul late last month to visit a hospital for Syrian refugees and the home of a refugee family from Aleppo.

Her representative didn't immediately return a request for comment Monday. ***(AP)***

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Boston Pops to take over city's signature July Fourth fete

BOSTON (AP)—The Boston Pops is taking over the city's signature July Fourth celebration. The Pops announced Monday it will produce the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular going forward. Co-founder and longtime executive producer David Mugar has stepped down after 43 years at the helm. The Pops also will assume management responsibility of Boston 4 Productions, which produces the event. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart says the move gives the Pops the best chance to be in control of the event's fate. The event is one of the nation's signature Independence Day celebrations. Lockhart says the Pops is in talks with several organizations about funding the event and expects to announce sponsorship plans over the next couple of months. Traditionally, the costs of the celebration are covered by corporate sponsors.

Spokeswoman: Toni Braxton treated for lupus, now at home

A spokeswoman says singer Toni Braxton is at home after spending several days in a Los Angeles hospital being treated for lupus. Braxton spokeswoman Maureen O'Connor said Monday that Braxton "is resting at home and is fine." The R&B singer revealed in 2010 that she had been diagnosed with the autoimmune disease. O'Connor said Braxton was not in serious condition but added that the disease must be monitored at all times. She says Braxton plans to start rehearsals this week for an upcoming tour. ***(AP)***

Obama, DiCaprio team up against climate change

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama and actor Leonardo DiCaprio teamed up on the White House South Lawn on Monday to sound a call for urgent action to combat climate change. Obama told a crowd gathered for the "South by South Lawn" festival of technology and music that the world is in "a race against time" to combat climate change. The president said the world gets an "incomplete" grade on its response to global warming so far, but he added that "the good news is we can still pass the test." "I tend to be a cautious optimist about our ability to make change," Obama said. Neither Donald Trump nor Hillary Clinton was mentioned in the discussion, but their presence was nonetheless felt. DiCaprio, who recently completed a documentary film about climate change, told the White House crowd that he had timed the film to come out before the presidential election. DeCaprio, who supports Hillary Clinton's campaign, said the scientific consensus about the dangers of climate change is in, and "the argument is now over."

Cosby can't attend accuser's deposition in defamation suit

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A federal judge in Philadelphia has barred Bill Cosby from attending the deposition his accuser gives in her defamation suit against a former district attorney.

But the judge says Cosby's lawyers can review the deposition afterward to be sure Andrea Constand didn't violate the confidential settlement of her 2005 lawsuit against Cosby.

The 79-year-old Cosby is awaiting trial in June over charges he drugged and molested Constand in 2004.

She has since sued the prosecutor who declined to prosecute Cosby at the time. Constand says Bruce Castor defamed her when he said that Constand had changed her story over time.

U.S. District Judge Eduardo Robreno also ruled Monday that Cosby can't participate in the deposition of Castor's then-deputy. She reopened the case last year amid new evidence.

Ryan Lochte leans on Vanilla Ice for support

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ryan Lochte has found a friend to lean on in "Dancing with the Stars" cast mate Vanilla Ice.

Lochte

The rapper tells USA Today that he calmed Lochte by telling him at the outset of the reality competition, "Yesterday's history and tomorrow's a mystery." Lochte says Vanilla Ice encouraged him to stay on the show after two men rushed the stage to protest the swimmer for lying about a drunken encounter during the Rio Olympics.

Lochte also says he's ready to propose to his girlfriend, former Playboy model Kayla Rae Reid. He says they met in January and his family thinks it may be too soon for a proposal. But Lochte says he realized she was "the one" after she stuck by him during the controversies.

China, Denmark projects among architecture award winners

AL AIN, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A children's center in China, a bridge in Iran and a park in Denmark are among the six winners of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

The winners were announced Monday in the historic Al-Jahili fort in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates. The awards are handed out once every three years and are meant to celebrate architecture that serves and embraces Muslim culture.

The network is headed by Aga Khan, the spiritual leader of millions of Ismaili Muslims who belong to an offshoot of the Shiite sect.

This year's winners included the Hutong Children's Library and Art Centre, which is located near a large mosque and Tiananmen Square in the Chinese capital, Beijing.

Judges also selected the Superkilen park in Copenhagen, Denmark, hailing it as a "public space promoting integration" among various religious and ethnic groups.

"Of course we are looking to award the diversity in the Islamic world, not just in the traditional Islamic world but also the Muslim communities that are outside the traditional Muslim world," said Mohammad al-Asad, a member of the award steering committee who heads the Center for the Study of the Built Environment in Amman, Jordan.

Other winners included the multi-level Tabiat Pedestrian Bridge in Tehran, Iran.

To tell or not tell: Man's co-workers cheat on wives

DEAR ABBY: My husband travels frequently with a work crew. It is not unusual for them to be gone for months at a time. During these absences, some of the married men on this crew cheat on their wives, who are at home with their children.

I feel guilty knowing they are cheating. I don't want them bringing home any sexually transmitted diseases to their unsuspecting spouses. My husband says I should stay out of it because it's not my business, but I feel bad saying nothing.

Should I speak to the wives? I have seen the cheating firsthand, so I'm certain it is happening. I would want to know if it were me.

TORN IN THE NORTHEAST

DEAR TORN: You have a moral dilemma, one that I can't decide for you. It is extremely important that you talk further with your husband about this. While I respect your motivation to disclose what you have seen to the wives, before doing anything you must carefully consider what the consequences could be. If you do what you are contemplating, your husband is sure to be ostracized by his co-workers. He could lose his job, and you your marriage.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 14-year-old girl with two younger brothers. They fight all the time, which I understand is normal. The problem is, my dad favors my youngest brother. If there's a conflict between my brothers, he always punishes the oldest whether he deserves it or not. I have come to realize this is because of my dad's own bad relationship with his older brother and that this is his way of getting revenge.

It's taking a toll on my brother emotionally because he already struggles with school and sports. I'm afraid he will become depressed. My mom will never speak up about it, and when I do, despite my good relationship with my dad, he punishes me. Sometimes I'm afraid he'll become violent. I feel boxed in, Abby. Please help.

STUCK SISTER

DEAR SISTER: You're a brave girl, and I'm glad you wrote. Regardless of how dysfunctional your father's relationship may have been with his older brother, it does not give him the right to abuse your brother. Your mother may be afraid of your father or she would have put a stop to it years ago.

You say you are afraid your father will become violent with you, which suggests that you have seen it happen to other family members. If you try to discuss this further with your dad, you might be at risk for violence.

It's important that you find an adult you trust who can intervene on your brother's behalf—a teacher, a relative or even a neighbor. Another strong male may be what it takes to protect your brother.

P.S. If this doesn't solve the problem, please write to me again and let me know.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

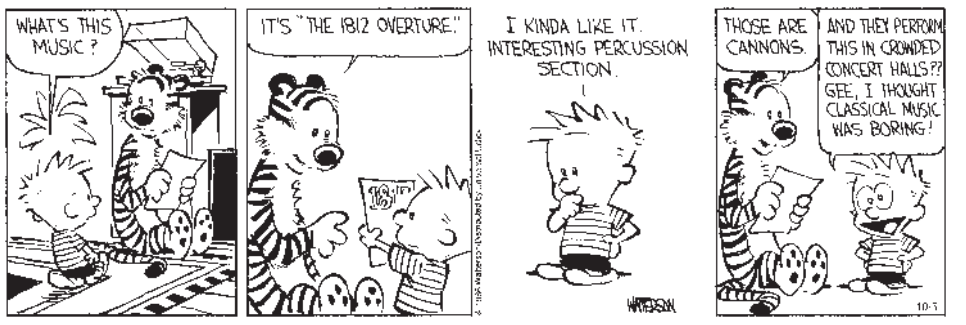
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHAT'S THIS MUSIC?
IT'S "THE 1812 OVERTURE."
I KINDA LIKE IT. INTERESTING PERCUSSION SECTION.
THOSE ARE CANNONS.
AND THEY PERFORM THIS IN CROWDED CONCERT HALLS?? GEE, I THOUGHT CLASSICAL MUSIC WAS BORING!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

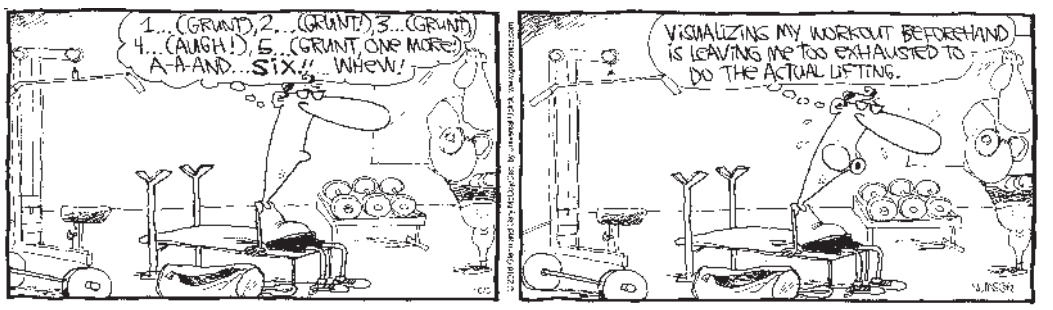
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ARE YOU GOING TO SWIM LAPS TODAY?
NO.
BETWEEN THE "LANE THREE SHARKS" AND THE "LANE FOUR EELS," IT'S JUST NOT FUN.
IT'S ALL POSTURING AND LANE STEALING AND THREATS.
CLICK CLICK
PLUS, THERE'S TV.
RIGHT? TV NEVER TRIED TO STEAL MY KICKBOARD.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


1...(GRUNT),2...(GRUNT),3...(GRUNT) 4...(AUGH!),5...(GRUNT,ONE MORE) A-A-AND...SIX!!... WHEW!
VISUALIZING MY WORKOUT BEFOREHAND IS LEAVING ME TOO EXHAUSTED TO DO THE ACTUAL LIFTING.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bivouac
5 Felon's flight
8 Modern taxi alternative
12 Jai —
13 Khan title
14 Use a rosary
15 Wimbledon seating for William and Kate
17 Withered
18 Goober
19 Des Moines natives
21 Flamenco cheer
22 Raced
23 Swab the deck
26 Show to a seat, slangily
28 Macaroni shape
31 Crony, out West
33 AAA job
35 Earring site
36 Zane and Lady Jane
38 Fill in — blank
40 Greek consonants
41 Rebuff
43 PC program
45 Sushi condiment
47 Herbal medicine
51 Recedes
52 Kid's meal carrier
54 Inky stain
55 Miracle-—
56 Met solo
57 Hot
58 Tolkien creature
59 Not so hot?

DOWN

1 Kvetch
2 Skin soother
3 Poet Angelou
4 Steinway product
5 Doctor's order
6 In the past
7 Long skirts
8 Surge
9 Pumpernickel holder
10 Deserve
11 Deli loaves
16 Humdinger
20 Unlock, in verse
23 Fuel stat
24 Scull tool
25 Place for sports reporters
27 Stolen
29 Kimono closer
30 Director Craven
32 Ming, for one
34 Unspecified things
37 Hero sandwich
39 Grand tale
42 Hogwash
44 "Hogwash!"
45 Spider creations
46 Competent
48 Start of a magical word
49 Film genre
50 Physical
53 Ornate vase

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	D	A	M	■	G	I	G	■	B	L	I	S
P	E	I	A	■	A	M	P	■	H	I	H	E
B	J	T	H	O	M	A	S	■	S	L	O	G
S	A	Y	■	P	U	N	■	A	K	I	N	A
■	■	■	J	U	T	■	E	L	I	■	■	■
B	A	R	K	S	■	T	R	I	N	K	E	T
A	C	E	R	■	B	O	G	■	N	I	N	A
S	H	O	O	T	L	Y	■	X	E	N	O	N
■	■	■	W	R	Y	■	H	E	R	■	■	■
A	M	P	L	Y	■	E	O	N	■	A	R	E
H	A	R	I	■	J	M	B	A	H	R	I	E
C	D	I	N	■	A	M	O	■	H	A	L	L
Y	E	G	G	■	W	A	S	■	O	B	E	Y

Yesterday's answer 10-5

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13				14			
15				16				■	17			
18						■	19	20				
■	■	■	21			■	22				■	■
23	24	25	■	26		27	■	28			29	30
31			32	■	33		34	■	35			
36				37	■	38		39	■	40		
■	■	41			42	■	43		44	■	■	■
45	46					■	47			48	49	50
51				■	52	53						
54				■	55			■	56			
57				■	58				59			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jesse Eisenberg, 33; Kate Winslet, 41; Guy Pearce, 49; Mario Lemieux, 51.

Happy Birthday: Travel and communication will help you reach your goals. Express the way you feel and what you would like to see happen. Be willing to compromise, but don't give in to the point of losing self-respect. Change will be required, but so will balance and integrity. Try to keep the peace, but be willing to walk away if that's what's required. Your numbers are 1, 6, 14, 20, 27, 37, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Opportunities are within your reach. Don't sit back when you know you should be the one in charge. Use your past experiences to guide you. Positive changes will result if you take action. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Temptation is best ignored. Stay focused on personal improvements and work on making the gains that you know are within reach. A conversation will encourage a closer partnership with someone who can help you reach your goals. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Social events, entertainment and doing things with children will bring you closer to someone you love. Plan to network with the people you enjoy spending time with, and together you will come up with a plan that will lead to new opportunities. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): A job that interests you will not be all it's drummed up to be. Ask questions before accepting an offer built on lofty hearsay. If someone talks down to you, walk away. Follow your heart and focus on your best interests. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Protect against illness or emotional stress. Take time out to assess your situation and to find a way to use whatever difficulties you face to your advantage. A disciplined attitude will make others hesitant to mess with you. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Share your thoughts and resurrect old dreams. You can implement something you love into your daily routine and enjoy the benefits of less stress, better health and a happier outlook. Do what's best for you. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make plans that will get you up and moving. A little exercise will help alleviate some of the stress and anxiety you are experiencing. Deal with domestic problems cautiously and keep an open mind to avoid getting involved in a dispute. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Try to present what you have to offer without giving away too much information. Once you have grabbed everyone's attention, you will be in a much better position to get the help you need without worrying about someone stealing your idea. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Observe what's going on around you. Find out what others think of your ambitions. Use the information you gather to tweak your plans and avoid opposition. Ask questions if you think someone has an ulterior motive. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Back away from anyone exhibiting confusion or insecurity. Surround yourself with stable individuals who can contribute to your ideas without leaving you to fight your battles all alone. The incentives you offer won't be a waste. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Times are changing, and it's up to you to stay on top of what's happening around you. Broaden your outlook and learn whatever you need to know to be more tech-savvy. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let anyone put extreme demands on you or your time. Minimize travel and cut down on lengthy conversations that will not lead to the results you want. Rely on your talent, skills and innovative ideas to get where you want to go. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are outspoken, driven and active. You are creative and intuitive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	6					
	4		8					
7				5				1
5	2	4			9	6	1	
		6						3
		9						7
		7	1	6	3	9	8	2
		3		2		5		6
		8		7		1		4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	9	2	5	8	6	4	7	3
7	8	5	3	9	4	1	2	6
6	4	3	1	7	2	8	5	9
4	6	7	8	1	5	9	3	2
5	2	9	6	4	3	7	1	8
3	1	8	7	2	9	5	6	4
8	3	6	9	5	7	2	4	1
2	7	1	4	6	8	3	9	5
9	5	4	2	3	1	6	8	7

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/4

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BAG TAGS Solution: 7 letters

N	R	U	T	E	R	O	Y	E	V	N	O	C	W	P
O	F	L	O	G	N	I	L	D	N	A	H	A	E	A
I	N	O	I	T	A	N	I	T	S	E	D	R	A	S
T	P	L	E	S	U	O	R	A	C	D	S	R	T	S
A	S	L	O	O	H	C	S	K	R	O	I	Y	H	E
C	T	R	A	I	N	T	E	E	N	N	N	O	E	N
I	R	F	Ⓛ	S	R	D	S	A	G	A	T	N	R	G
F	O	L	I	Ⓞ	T	S	L	S	M	R	Y	S	P	E
I	P	T	P	G	Ⓖ	I	L	E	A	T	H	E	R	R
T	R	S	L	A	Z	Ⓞ	C	C	R	I	R	S	O	M
N	I	S	B	E	S	U	K	A	P	E	E	G	O	I
E	A	B	D	Y	B	I	P	P	S	T	P	T	F	A
D	N	U	O	F	N	G	I	A	A	S	S	A	A	L
I	G	T	A	G	S	N	L	D	E	U	U	O	I	C
M	E	S	S	A	G	E	D	O	C	R	A	B	L	D

©2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 10/5

Address, Airports, Bags, Barcode, Belt, Bus, Carousel, Carryon, Checked, Claim, Conveyor, Custom, Dates, Destination, Diaper, Found, Gift, Golf, Handling, Identification, Laser, Leather, Logo, Lost, Message, Name, Party, Passenger, Personalized, Plastic, Return, Rings, School, Shipping, Sports, Stubs, Tags, Toys, Tracking, Train, Weatherproof

Yesterday's Answer: Scatter

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

MGS
MARIANAS GEOTECH SERVICES

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: Engineering Technician

DUTIES: Perform field and/or laboratory testing, and assist in soil investigations. Tabulate, prepare, and submit written reports based on project observations and inspections. Coordinate with project managers, technicians, clients, and others regarding the construction site and requirements. Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma or equivalent, at least 3 years of relevant experience, computer proficient, and good communication skills.

Applications are available at www.marianasgeotech.com and at the Marianas Geotech Services (MGS) office in Dandan. Submit applications by **5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2016**, to Carmen Borja at admin@marianasgeotech.com or at the MGS office. For more information, please contact 234-7645.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Strategic Gaming Solution, Inc. has immediate opening for

Barterder (2)

Position Summary: Responsible for operating and maintaining the e-gaming/digital lounge bar during the shift. Ensuring that the bar, equipment and stock is maintained and cleaned. Ensure that all stock levels are adequate. Mix and serve drinks to patrons, directly or through wait staff.

Position Requirements: High School Graduate, GED or equivalent plus 1 year work experience as a bartender. Candidate must be energetic with an excellent track record in hospitality and who thrives in a fast-paced service environment; must have depth knowledge about wines, spirits, cocktails and other drink ingredients; has the ability to communicate effectively with guests, team members and management in both written and verbal form. Must have the ability to handle multiple tasks, must demonstrate true passion to serve guests, have strong team work skills, must be willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays and weekends. Must be highly motivated, organized, outgoing, with excellent communication and leadership skills an advantage.

Kindly pick up an application at our Human Resources Department located within Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe. Application may be picked up Monday to Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Last day to submit application is October 10, 2016. No phone call please.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID

ITB 1: CHCC/BEH-001

OPENING DATE: **October 3, 2016 (MONDAY)**
BID MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BEH OFFICE IN NAVY HILL NO LATER THAN:
CLOSING DATE: **October 7, 2016 (FRIDAY) TIME: 11:00 am**

SPECIAL NOTICE TO BIDDER

Bid vehicle is offer for sale in same (as is) condition. **ALL VEHICLES SOLD AS IS. THERE ARE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES.**

- Bidder is caution to inspect the vehicles on or before dateline in Navy Hill BEH campus.
- Highest bidder will be notify within 15 work days from the deadline (10/7/2016)
- Removal/relocation of vehicle from BEH campus in Navy Hill is the responsibility of bidder.
- Winning bidder unresponsive within 15 work days to BEH office notification (10/21/2016) will be cancel and given to next highest bidder
- Bided vehicle shall be taken or remove BEH campus on or before October 21, 2016.
- CHCC-BEH office provides an inspection period for prospective bidder to determine the true condition and bid accordingly.

Address all Correspondence to:

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Bureau of Environmental Health

ATT: Director, BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH office
P.O. Box 500409
Saipan MP 96950

PHONE NO: (670) 664-4870/72
Fax: (670) 664-4871

EMAIL: John M. Tagabeul @ john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp or Stanley Iokapo @ stan.iokapo@dph.gov.mp

Lot No.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT OF MEASURE	MINIMUM BID PRICE
1	**Grey 1997 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Gov't Tag: FA#00330 LP # 2780 • Vin#1N6SD11Y2VC410745	1-unit	$50.
2	**Orange 1997 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Go't Tag: FA#00331 LP # 2781 • Vin#1N6SD11Y24C4C411698	1-unit	$250.
3	**White 1998 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Gov't Tag: CNMI#409958 LP# 2861 • Vin#1N6DD21Y4W0307228	1 unit	$250.
4	**Purple 1997 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag:US#30757 LP# 2729 • Vin #KMHVF14N3VU420234	1 unit	$200.
5	**Beige 1997 Mitsubishi Montero** Gov't Tag: US#32924 LP# 3099 • Vin#JA4MR31H4X1004970	1 unit	$150.
6	**Blue 2000 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag: US#33942 LP# 3200 • Vin #KMHCF45G8YU065090	1 unit	$100.
7	**Beige 1998 Mazda Protégé** Gov't Tag: FA#00296 LP# 3200 • Vin #:JM1BC1416W0189951	1 unit	$350.
8	**Beige 1998 Mazda Protégé** Gov't Tag: 00293 LP# 4186 • Vin # JM1BC1416W0189335	1 unit	$250.
9	**White 2000 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag FA#00188CM LP# 3581 • Vin #KMHCF45G64U530055	1 unit	$100.

INSPECTION DATE(S) EXCEPT WEEKEND & HOLIDAYS
STARTING 10/3/2016 0900 HRS. ENDS 10/7/2016 1000 HRS

DATELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BID:
October 7, 2016, 11:00 am
BEH Navy Hill Office P O. Box 500409
664-4870/72

Return all Bid to:
CHCC-Bureau of Environmental Health Office, Navy Hill
Att: BEH Director
P.O. Box 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Your bid envelop must be seal & marked
ITB1-CHCC-BEH 001

J. C. Tenorio Enterprises Inc.
is seeking for the following position:

(1) Cook

Interested applicants may pick up an application at the second floor of the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center.

J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
JOB VACANCIES:

(1)	**Food Service Worker**
(1)	**Expediter**
(1)	**Executive Secretary**
(13)	**Baker**
(2)	**Cook**

Interested applicants may send their resume to sales.saipan@hermansbakery.com or pick-up an application form at our HR office in Tun Herman Pan (Airport Road)

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Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474
Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

www.saipantribune.com

CTSI Logistics

LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN GUAM?

CTSI Logistics Guam is seeking for motivated, driven, and committed heavy equipment drivers.

COMMERCIAL TRACTOR DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3)yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment

FUEL HAULING TANK TRUCK DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3) yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment
(preferably transporting petroleum products)

**Must be able to obtain the following upon arrival in Guam:*

Medical Examiners Certificate under USDOT Requirements
TWIC- Temporary Worker Identification Card
"C- Chauffeaur's" License

**Must be willing to relocate as soon as possible.*

To apply, send resume to ctsi@ctsiguam.com or drop off at CTSI Logistics Palau, P.O. Box 1713 Malakal, Koror, Republic of Palau 96940 | Tel: (690) 488-2845/1085

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ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

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Vikings frustrate Beckham, Giants while getting to 4-0

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Odell Beckham Jr. and the potent New York Giants passing attack never found a rhythm on another frustrating night for the volatile wide receiver.

The Minnesota Vikings have been making a habit of sending the opponent home unhappy.

Mystifying Eli Manning yet again, holding Beckham to a career-low 23 yards on three catches and turning two turnovers into 10 points, the Vikings stayed unbeaten with a 24-10 victory Monday over the Giants.

"We feel like we've got one of the best units in the game," cornerback Captain Munnerlyn said. "We've just got to keep working. Our coaches do a great job of putting in a great game plan, and we just go out there and cover the guys up. Everybody on this defense wants to be great."

The Vikings (4-0) didn't record a sack after getting 13 over the past two games, but they were so tight in coverage and sound against the run that the Giants only converted 2 of 12 third downs. Second in the NFL with 12.5 points allowed per contest, the Vikings have conquered quarterbacks Aaron Rodgers, Cam Newton and Manning in consecutive games—the last two league MVP award winners and a two-time Super Bowl champion. They're 6-2 against Manning in his career.

Coach Mike Zimmer was concerned about Beckham, Victor Cruz and Sterling Shepard, as dangerous a trio of pass-catchers as there is in the NFL, so the Vikings didn't blitz the Giants (2-2) nearly as much as they did Rodgers' Packers or Newton's Panthers.

AP

Minnesota Vikings running back Matt Asiata (44) dives for extra yardage between New York Giants defenders Trevin Wade, left, and Jonathan Casillas (52) during the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, in Minneapolis.

"It just shows our versatility," linebacker Anthony Barr said.

Sam Bradford threw a touchdown pass to tight end Kyle Rudolph for the third straight game and kept his turnover-free streak since joining the Vikings intact, and Matt Asiata and Jerick McKinnon each ran for a touchdown as part of a season-high 104 yards rushing for the team. Bradford was 26 of 36 for 262 yards passing, thriving with quick-release throws behind an offensive line that protected better than it had in any of the previous three games.

Starting 4-0 for the first time since 2009, the Vikings joined Philadelphia and Denver as the league's only remaining undefeated teams.

"We've still got a long way to go. We're not handing out any medals tonight," Zimmer said. "The attitude of this team, they like to work. It's good, and they actually tell me I'm getting soft sometimes."

Really?

"Yeah, they do," Zimmer said. "They tell me all the time, 'What are you doing? How come we're not in pads today?"

Here are the top takeaways from the game:

RHODES CLOSED: Beckham, who has yet to score this season during the longest touchdown-less streak of his three-year career, was smothered by cornerback Xavier Rhodes. Beckham wasn't nearly as agitated as he was the week before in his much-scrutinized matchup with Washington cornerback Josh Norman, but he picked up an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty after he and Rhodes bumped and jawed at each other out of bounds following a short catch in the second quarter.

"I've just got to know it's all against me. It's going to be that way. I have to assume that I'm always in the wrong no matter what," Beckham said. "That's something, it's a tough pill to swallow, but you have to understand it. You have to be able to cope with it and just keep it moving."

Manning expressed more concern about his star receiver's behavior than he had before.

"He's got to be aware," Manning said. "They're looking for him, and he's got to play smart. We can't afford to do anything."

KICKING CONUNDRUM: Blair Walsh missed his third field goal try in four games this season for the Vikings, this one a 46-yarder that never really had a chance. He has also missed two extra points this year, and Zimmer has sounded more and more like he's losing patience with his kicker.

"We need to make those or it's going to bite us in the rear end," the coach said. "Our team is playing close games. That's how we're built."

Walsh did rebound to hit a 44-yarder not long after his miss, following an interception by Rhodes.

QUICK PASSES: The Vikings led the NFL with 15 sacks in the first three games, and the Giants clearly preferred a quick-pass attack to neutralize the rush. Manning wasn't sacked, mostly preferring to dump the ball off on short routes to receivers on slants and backs in the flats. This is what the Vikings must expect now.

"You look around the league, and there's franchise quarterbacks out there, man," Munnerlyn said. "You don't want to get those guys hurt. They're the money men. So you try to protect them and get rid of the ball real fast, and we just got to cover them up."

STRUGGLING SECONDARY: The Giants' secondary is depleted by injuries. Trevin Wade had trouble all game starting at cornerback for Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie. Wade was beaten by Charles Johnson for receptions of 30 and 40 yards, had a pass interference penalty on Rudolph and got away with one on an early incompletion to Adam Thielen.

RECIPE FOR TROUBLE: The Giants have a minus-8 turnover margin at the quarter mark of the season. After being penalized 11 times for 128 yards in a loss to Washington last week, they were flagged eight times for 69 yards in this game.

After a monthlong hiatus, Brady returns to Patriots

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—He's baaack.

And minus a surprise setback Sunday against Buffalo, it's almost like Tom Brady never left.

Despite being without their franchise centerpiece for the past month while he served his four-game "Deflategate" suspension, the New England Patriots welcome Brady back on Monday 3-1 after a 16-0 loss to the Bills.

When Brady returns to the Patriots facilities, it will put an official stamp on the 21-month odyssey that has hovered over the franchise since an NFL investigation concluded the Patriots intentionally underinflated footballs used in the AFC Championship game on Jan. 18, 2015.

A federal judge initially overturned the suspension, allowing Brady to play last season, but an appeals court reinstated it this spring. Prior to training camp in July, Brady announced he would end his legal challenges and accept the league's punishment.

The NFL won that fight, but with a nearly unblemished start to 2016, the Patriots have barely missed a beat.

That's not to say they haven't had their trials. New England won games it wasn't expected to and watched the balance of the AFC East struggle to keep up. It did it all with a roster that has had its issues with health at key positions.

As much as the team has rallied behind Brady understudies Jimmy Garoppolo and Jacoby Brissett the past month, there is also no denying the eagerness in the Patriots' locker room to see No. 12 back in uniform.

"It's going to be great," receiver Julian Edelman said. "It's one of your best players on the team. A guy that leads us. ... Anytime one of your best players isn't there, there's something missing."

The wait is now over.

A recap of the Patriots' month without Brady:

THE REPLACEMENTS: Neither Garoppolo nor Brissett had made an NFL regular-season start prior to this season. Garoppolo made his debut a memorable one, throwing for 264 yards and a touchdown in New England's 23-21 road win over the Arizona Cardinals.

Garoppolo was having an even better outing against the Miami Dolphins at home the following week, throwing three touchdown passes, before being knocked out of the game in the second quarter after having his right shoulder slammed into the turf. Brissett took over and helped the Patriots hold on for a 31-24 win .

With Garoppolo's shoulder still sore, Brissett ran for a touchdown the following week in his first career start in a 27-0 win over the Houston Texans. He tweaked his right thumb in the second half but recovered enough to start Sunday against the Bills, which ended in his first career loss.

GRONK'S SLOW START: Rob Gronkowski hasn't been himself since suffering a hamstring injury late during training camp. He missed the first two games of the season and has played sparingly since. But he finally broke through with his first reception of the season late in Sunday's loss. He, too, is looking forward to having Brady's presence back in the huddle. "I mean, I don't even have to answer that," Gronkowski said when asked about Brady's impact. "You've got to give hats off to Jacoby going out there. Much respect to him going out there and doing what he did (Sunday) as a rookie, so hats off to our quarterbacks. They did a tremendous job the first four weeks and obviously it's exciting to get Tom back."

INJURIES: Along with the quarterbacks and Gronk, the Patriots continue to deal with a handful of injuries at key positions. Linebacker Dont'a Hightower has been slowed by a knee issue, and guard Jonathan Cooper has yet to play because of a foot issue.

NINKOVICH RETURNS: Brady isn't the only player the Patriots get back Monday. Defensive end Rob Ninkovich also returns after he received a four-game ban for violating the NFL's policy on performance enhancing substances. But there is still a question of how healthy he is after suffering a triceps injury that sidelined him early during training camp.

BLOUNT TO THE RESCUE: Running back LeGarrette Blount was a saving grace for New England's offense with Brady out. Through three games, he was leading the NFL in rushing with a 99.3 yards per game average. His efforts earned him the AFC's offensive player of the month award for September. He finished with just 54 yards against Buffalo, but should help take the early pressure off Brady as he eases back in.

UP NEXT: Brady's first taste of the 2016 regular season will be at Cleveland on Sunday. He returns to Gillette Stadium on Oct. 16 when the Patriots host the Bengals.

Maddon's fingerprints all over the suddenly dominant Cubs

AP
Chicago Cubs manager Joe Maddon gives Joey Belladonna, lead vocalist for the thrash metal band Anthrax thumbs up after Belladonna sang the national anthem before a baseball game between the Chicago Cubs and the Cincinnati Reds at Wrigley Field on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, in Chicago.

CHICAGO (AP)—The steady breeze from four, large portable fans whooshed through the Chicago Cubs' luxurious new digs, sucking away whatever moisture lingered from the just-shampooed carpets.

"They missed a spot," laughed reliever Mike Montgomery, sitting at his locker. The left-hander lifted the sole of his shoe to show it was wet. "You can still smell the champagne here."

On the morning after the Cubs clinched a playoff spot, few members of the team with the best record in baseball had wandered back into the clubhouse ahead of an afternoon start still three hours away. Manager Joe Maddon, though, was already in his office and focused on what mattered next: breaking a century-and-counting World Series hex.

"I see now what everyone was talking about," said Montgomery, who arrived from Seattle in July as part of a four-player trade. "Joe knows so much about baseball—situational play, what the data calls for, what makes guys tick—but he makes it look easy. So you don't always see how he works."

Indeed, Maddon's fingerprints are all over this team. With the playoff opener looming Friday at Wrigley Field, plenty of the credit for assembling this sudden juggernaut goes to Theo Epstein, the Cubs' president of baseball operations. He helped assemble the lineup and has added complementary parts like Montgomery, closer Aroldis Chapman and outfielder Jason Heyward in a timely fashion.

But it's Maddon's job to fit those pieces together. More impressive still is how he's made nearly every one of them better.

Take the steady improvement that has second-year star Kris Bryant battling teammate Anthony Rizzo for Most Valuable Player. Or starter Kyle Hendricks' breakout campaign and Cy Young candidacy.

In Bryant's case, it involved teaching the much-touted third baseman to cope with expectations. Maddon accomplished that by encouraging Bryant to take a few shifts in the outfield and even at first base, giving the youngster another skill to learn instead of obsessing over every at-bat. In Hendricks' case, it might have involved a deep data dive alongside pitching coach Chris Bosio, seeing whether the right-hander's pitch sequence, location or delivery needed tweaking.

But it might have been something as simple as this. A few weeks ago in Pittsburgh, Hendricks saw Maddon heading in his direction in the dugout. Hendricks expected Maddon to question his decision to stop at second base after Chris Coghlan singled behind him.

Instead, Maddon asked him about the mascot at Dartmouth, where Hendricks went to college.

"When you're known as the Big Green, is that like Gumby?" Maddon asked. "Is he your guy? What does the mascot look like?"

Hendricks smiled at the memory. Nearly every other player on the roster has a similar story to tell.

"I got maybe 10 career at-bats. I couldn't remember the last time I batted in a game," Montgomery recalled. "But I got a hit the other night and it was one of the happiest moments of my career. ...

"So Joe comes up to me the next day and starts discussing hitting with me and we have this long conversation about it, like I actually know what I'm doing. He probably knows that's not the case. But now," Montgomery chuckled, "I'm already thinking, 'Maybe I'll get another one.'"

In an interview room just off the new clubhouse, Maddon parked behind a bank of microphones. Instead of the big picture, reporters wanted to know where he went after the party in the clubhouse broke up. In addition to being one of the best managers in baseball, Maddon is one of the most entertaining.

"I did not go out last night," he said.

"Why not?" came the follow-up question.

"I had nothing," Maddon said smiling, sliding his elbow along the table and pretending he was about to nap.

Don't believe it.

This is one guy who always has something up his sleeve.

Mike Trout or playoff-bound Mookie Betts for AL MVP?

NEW YORK (AP)—Mike Trout has an MVP problem: He needs more help.

Widely considered baseball's best all-around player, with modern metrics consistently supporting that assertion, the Los Angeles Angels center fielder has been runner-up in the American League three of the past four years.

The only time he took home the prize was 2014, when the Angels won 98 games and the AL West. They came in third place the other three seasons, leaving Trout to finish second despite his outstanding numbers.

It's a similar scenario this year. Trout led the league in runs (123), on-base percentage (.441) and wins above replacement (10.6), as calculated by Baseball-Reference.com. But he did all that for a fourth-place team that went 74-88 and was never in the playoff hunt.

With other top contenders on clubs that reached the postseason, Trout could be denied yet again—perhaps in favor of dynamic outfielder Mookie Betts or retiring bopper David Ortiz from AL East champion Boston.

"It's not really defined a certain way, so people are going to have opinions different ways. For me, I think it should go to someone that is on a winning team and has a chance to go to the playoffs," Cleveland slugger Mike Napoli said. "But then again, you can't take away from people that really can't control other people having down years and you having a really great year. So I think you can go either way."

Over in the National League, it shapes up much the same.

Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo of the Chicago Cubs, who led the majors with 103 wins, are joined in the MVP discussion by Daniel Murphy from NL East champion Washington and rookie shortstop Corey Seager of the NL West champion Dodgers. Some of their stiffest competition comes from players on losing clubs: Colorado's Nolan Arenado, Atlanta's Freddie Freeman and Cincinnati's Joey Votto.

Both Cy Young Award races are close, too, with Justin Verlander, Rick Porcello, Jon Lester and Max Scherzer among those in the mix.

Poor teams have produced MVPs before - Chicago Cubs outfielder Andre Dawson (1987) and Texas shortstop Alex Rodriguez (2003) even won for clubs that came in last place.

But until Washington slugger Bryce Harper was a unanimous winner in the NL last season, nobody in either league had been elected MVP from a team that missed the playoffs since Albert Pujols with St. Louis in 2008.

"Is it the best player in the particular league? When you look at the numbers, Trout obviously is the best player and that's hard to argue," said Dave Roberts, a strong candidate for NL Manager of the Year in his first season running the Dodgers.

"But for a winning team, there's got to be some weight put on that and what that particular person means to that particular winning team. I kind of fluctuate season to season," he added.

Voting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America is conducted before the postseason begins Tuesday, and results will be announced in November.

Here are our choices for all the big awards:

AMERICAN LEAGUE MVP

The nod goes to Trout (29 HRs, 100 RBIs, 30 for 37 in steals, .991 OPS) despite his team's flaws. He scored 17 percent of the Angels' runs this season, the highest percentage for an AL player since Rickey Henderson with the 1985 New York Yankees.

Taking nothing away from his achievements, Betts benefited from hitting in a loaded Boston batting order, while Trout had little protection outside of Albert Pujols and Kole Calhoun. It's not fair to look past Trout simply because the Angels pitched poorly and fielded a thin lineup.

But if Betts wins, no complaints.

NATIONAL LEAGUE MVP

Some of the stats for Bryant and Rizzo are incredibly identical. They both batted .292 with a .385 on-base percentage, while Bryant had 39 homers and 102 RBIs to Rizzo's 32 homers and 109 RBIs. Bryant also led the league in runs (121) and WAR while providing versatility on defense. He wins MVP honors one season after he was the NL Rookie of the Year. Arenado and Murphy warrant a close look, too, though.

AL CY YOUNG

Tigers ace Justin Verlander (16-9, 3.04 ERA) nips Boston right-hander Rick Porcello (22-4, 3.15) and 2014 winner Corey Kluber (18-9, 3.14). Verlander led the league with 254 strikeouts and a 1.00 WHIP while throwing a few more innings than either of the other two. Porcello was fantastic but relied more on his defense, fanning 189.

NL CY YOUNG

Clayton Kershaw's back injury might be the only reason this is a race - but it's a close one. Some wonder whether Lester (19-5, 2.44) and Cubs teammate Kyle Hendricks (16-8, 2.13) could split first-place votes and knock each other out after running 1-2 in ERA. Freeman said he favors Hendricks, while Philadelphia first baseman Ryan Howard went another way and picked Scherzer.

We think Howard's got it right.

Washington's ace went 20-7 with a 2.96 ERA while leading the league in strikeouts (284), innings (228 1/3) and WHIP (0.97). He even matched a major league record with 20 Ks in one game. Neither Lester nor Hendricks reached 200 strikeouts or 205 innings.

AL ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Two months in the majors are not enough for Yankees catcher Gary Sanchez, even with 20 home runs and a 1.032 OPS in 201 at-bats. Detroit right-hander Michael Fulmer (11-7, 3.06 ERA, 159 innings) is the pick - but check out overlooked Houston reliever Chris Devenski (2.16 ERA and 104 Ks in 108 1/3 innings).

NL ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

At one point it appeared this could be quite a race between a trio of talented young shortstops. Seager, however, ran away with it when Trevor Story and Aledmys Diaz got hurt.

AL MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Terry Francona wins with Cleveland for the second time in four years. His team overcame several significant injuries in winning the AL Central over World Series champion Kansas City and a Detroit squad that outspent the Indians by $107 million on player payroll.

NL MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Roberts edges Terry Collins of the New York Mets. Both clubs were severely depleted by health problems and still made the playoffs, but the Dodgers were four wins better and won their division.

Derrick Rose rape trial starts day of Knicks preseason start

LOS ANGELES (AP)—On the same day the New York Knicks' preseason begins, the NBA team's newly acquired star Derrick Rose will begin trial in a $21 million rape lawsuit.

Rose and two friends are accused of gang raping an incapacitated woman he once dated. Jury selection in the case begins Tuesday.

Rose and the woman, identified so far only as Jane Doe, had dated on and off in the two years prior to the August 2013 incident at her apartment. Rose and his friends denied the allegations and said the sex was consensual.

"I feel like I'm innocent and I feel like I didn't do anything wrong," Rose told reporters two weeks ago.

Rose is expected to attend portions of the trial, though his lawyer said he may miss jury selection because it conflicts with the Knicks preseason opener in Houston.

In addition to overshadowing Rose's attempts to bounce back from injuries that sidelined him the past few seasons, the case threatens to expose details of this sex life, including text messages discussing his desire to have group sex.

The woman said that she had been drinking vodka, tequila and wine before returning from a house Rose rented in Beverly Hills and passing out in her apartment. She said Rose and his friends, Randall Hampton and Ryan Allen, let themselves into her apartment in the early morning and raped her.

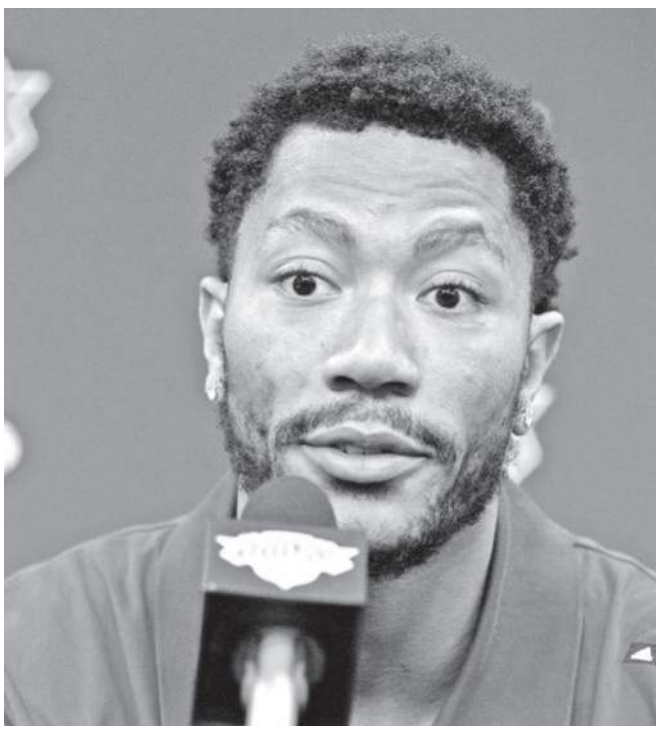
She said she was confused when she woke up the next morning with her dress over her head and saw a used condom on the floor.

"I felt just dirty," she told the AP. "I didn't want to believe it was true."

The woman claimed she was drugged, though Rose's lawyers said there's no evidence of any drugs.

Rose's lawyer said she let the trio in through two locked doors and was alert and cleaned up after sex.

Rose's lawyers said the woman is hiding behind a cloak of anonymity while trying to extort millions from the former MVP.



AP
In this June 24, 2016, file photo, Derrick Rose speaks during a news conference at Madison Square Garden in New York.

The woman has wanted to remain anonymous because she was harassed online after her name was leaked and she didn't want her conservative Mexican immigrant parents to learn about the incident. She said they don't know anything about the alleged rape or her relationship with Rose.

She didn't report the incident to police until last year—two years after the incident—which is when she filed suit. The Los Angeles Police Department still has an open investigation.

The federal judge overseeing the case said he would allow her to remain anonymous until trial. If he kept her identify from the jury, he said it might appear he was protecting her and jurors might assume he believed her and that could hamper Rose's defense.

The Associated Press does not name victims in alleged sexual assault cases unless they ask to be identified.

Montreal edges Orlando in MLS, moves into 4th spot in East

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Dominic Oduro scored in a second straight game to help Montreal beat Orlando City 1-0 on Sunday and move into fourth place in the Eastern Conference.

Montreal sits one point ahead of fifth-place D.C. United — seven behind co-leading New York Red Bulls and New York City and five behind third-place Toronto. Orlando was eliminated from playoff contention.

Oduro scored in the 56th minute when he used the outside of his right foot to beat goalkeeper Joe Bendik on breakaway. Six minutes prior, Ignacio Piatti had a one-on-one opportunity but he had a heavy touch near the 18-yard box and Bendik came out of his area to deny it.

At Vancouver, Brad Evans scored from the penalty spot in the 81st minute to help the Seattle Sounders beat the Vancouver Whitecaps 2-1 in a game where both teams finished with 10 players.

The Sounders have won four straight and are fifth in the Western Conference in the race for six playoff spots. The Whitecaps were eliminated from playoff contention.

Evans earned the penalty when his cross into the area struck sliding Vancouver defender Jordan Harvey's arm.

Pedro Morales opened the scoring with a penalty for Vancouver in the 25th minute, and Osvaldo Alonso equalized for Seattle in the 39th.

Morales was sent off by referee Ricardo Salazar in the 53rd for an elbow to the head of Sounders midfielder Cristian Roldan. Evans was sent off in the 84th for what appeared to be an attempted head-butt on Whitecaps defender David Edgar.

UFO masters caging final meeting tonight

Organizers of the United Filipino Organization's 15th Inter-Organizational Basketball League are calling all representatives of participating teams to attend a meeting tonight at 7pm.

UFO president Bong Malasarte will host the meeting at his residence in Susupe.

The masters league will open on Oct. 9 at 8am at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, while games will be played every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Malasarte said details of the opening ceremony, league format, ground rules, and awards will be discussed at the meeting.

Eight teams will be competing in the masters league. The list includes Stephens Pawnshop, 8th Division, Blue Eagle, PC Bargain, Boy Garcia's Cavite, Maplas, Ali'i Blue Haus, and Armatech.

For more information, contact Malasarte at 285-55-25. ***(PR)***

DUENAS

From Page 28

winning margin.

Duenas Compound leaned on its younger players in the final canto to create a safe distance against the veteran players of Saipan Apparel, which is led by former CNMI National Team member Ed Diaz. Ernest Duenas scored eight of his 16 points in the fourth quarter and he drew enough support from Douglas Schmidt, cousin Matt, and Travis Eubanks to keep Duenas Compound on top in the final canto. Schmidt chipped in 5 markers, while Eubanks and Matt had 4 apiece.

Ed Diaz, who had 14 after the three quarters, was held to a point in the fourth frame where only Jerome Norita and Josh Andrew knocked in more than two field goals in Saipan Apparel's letdown.

Matt Duenas led all scorers with his 25 points, while Schmidt also finished in double figures with 18. Ed Diaz paced Saipan Apparel with his 15 markers.

In the first game, GMI Market pulled off an 88-86 overtime win against the Junior Ol'Aces to improve its record to 2-2. The Junior Ol'Aces absorbed their second loss in three games.

Prince Factor had 23 points to lift GMI Market to the close victory. His pair of free throws sent the match into the extension period. Donald Romo added 10, including 4 in overtime, while Factor and his brother Angelo, Jun Fidelino, and Jun Alipio also contributed in the extra five minutes of play. Alipio made the go-ahead basket in overtime, while the Junior Ol'Aces did not have enough time (they had possession with two seconds left on the clock) to pull up for a shot and force another extension.

First Game

GMI Market 88 — P. Factor 23, Alipio 22, Fidelino 11, Romu 10, A. Factor 8, Senupe 7, Tolosa 2, Banayas 2.

Junior Ol'Aces 86 — Sablan 20, Castro 19, Blake 13, Siech 8, Kabiriel 7, Borja 6, Onopioy 3.

Scoring by quarters: 15-9, 32-34, 54-58, 77-77, 88-86.

Second Game

Duenas Compound 74 — Matt Duenas 25, Schmidt 18, E. Duenas 16, Eubanks 9, Santos 4, Hernandez 1.

Saipan Apparel 64 — E. Diaz 15, Norita 13, Fitial 9, Andrew 8, Teregeyo 5, Rangamar 5, J. Diaz 3, Lizama 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-13, 33-29, 53-48, 74-64.

LEE

From Page 28

manika.

Lee, on the other hand, had a bye in Round 2 and is again at the bottom half of the 48-player draw. The CNMI player is seeded third anew in the singles event behind No. 1 Lisa Mays of Australia and No. 2 Ashleigh Harvey of New Zealand.

Lee will go for win No. 2 and a quarterfinals berth today when she takes on the unranked Cayla McInroy of New Zealand. The Kiwi is a qualifier, gaining an entry to the main draw after surviving compatriot Ruby Spencer in the qualifying tournament last weekend, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2. In the main draw, McInroy soldiered on after pulling off an upset over the No. 16-ranked Shaylee Syme, 6-3, 6-4.

Meanwhile, Lee's fellow Pacific Oceania players Ayana Rengiil of Palau and Lyla Tapusoa of Samoa are out of contention in singles play.

The seventh-seeded Rengiil won the opening set of her match against unranked Victoria Hartland, 6-3, but the Kiwi stole the win after prevailing in the last two sets, 6-4, 6-4. Hardland faced Rengiil in the second round following a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Ruby Spencer, while Rengiil had a bye in Round 2. Tapusoa also bowed to a New Zealand player after losing to Paige Alter, 2-6, 2-6.

Tapusoa was also eliminated in the doubles as she and teammate Kirsten Swindell of New Zealand were beaten by McInroy and Kaitlyn Wilkinson, 6-4, 6-1. Lee and her doubles partner—Rengiil—did not play in the doubles yesterday as they had a bye in the opening round after getting the No. 2 seeding in the 24-team field. The duo of Lee and Rengiil will begin their doubles campaign today when they duel Australia's Gabriella Ioannou and Japan's Asuka Kata, a 6-2, 6-1 winner in the first round over the tandem of New Zealand's Ema Miyaura and Amily Suga.

The CNMI player gained entry to the two tournaments in New Zealand after winning the girls U16 singles and doubles events in the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championship held in Fiji in August.

MP

From Page 28

With the win over Shirley's, MP United shares the No. 4 to 5 spot with Matansa (1-0-2 win-draw-loss record). Shirley's stays at the bottom of the team standings in the six-squad field.

Kanoa 6, Paire 0

Kanoa is in second place, joining Paire after also earning a shutout win.

Kanoa and Paire hold similar 2-0-1 marks.

Ian Karl Maniago and Kirt Andon registered two goals apiece in Kanoa's second victory. Joseph Rasa and Thomas Benavente recorded Kanoa's two other goals.

Andon hit the board first when he found the back of the net in the fifth minute. Basa also scored in the first half (eighth minute), while Andon got his second in the 13th minute and Maniago made it a 4-0 halftime lead for Kanoa after posting his first three minutes later.

Kanoa's two goals in the second half were registered in the 43rd and 56th by Benavente and Maniago, respectively.

TanHoldings 10, Matansa 2

TanHoldings took the solo division lead after pouncing on Matansa in the second game last weekend.

Kirro Batino led TanHoldings' third win in as many games after firing three goals. Mark Esalan and Thaiphi Australia contributed two apiece, while Joeraf Dalawampu, John Michael Rojas, and John Paul Cruz logged one each.

Batino posted two of his goals in the first half to hand TanHoldings a 3-2 advantage. Esalan made the other goal in the opening 35 minutes of the game. Matansa only faced a one-goal deficit at the break after Joshua Malig and Lolobeyong Benito hit the board in the first. Matansa then was silent in the second half, allowing TanHoldings to keep its perfect record.

TanHoldings hopes to stretch its win streak to four this Saturday when it duels Paire in the curtain-raiser at 1:30pm. In the second game at 3pm, it will be Kanoa versus Shirley's, while in the last match at 4:30pm, Matansa will slug it out against MP United.

NMISF Opening Meet

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Swim Club's Taiga Sato does the backstroke of the 200m individual medley event in last Saturday's NMISF Opening Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Tsunami Saipan's Julia Jinang swims in the 50m freestyle.

Saipan Swim Club's Jinie Thompson gets ready at the starting block.

Tsunami Saipan members head to the holding area to get ready for their respective races.

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru plunges into the water.

Lennosuke Suzuki waits for the start of the 100m freestyle race.

Saipan Swim Club coach Jacoby Winkfield talks to his senior swimmers.

A Tsunami Saipan swimmer competes in the 100m breaststroke event.

Vikings frustrate Beckham, Giants while getting to 4-0

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Maddon's fingerprints all over the suddenly dominant Cubs

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Lee regains form, sweeps Aussie foe

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Carol Lee, seen here playing in the 2016 Chuck E. Cheese's ITF Junior Championships last May at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna, Guam, is competing in her second tournament in New Zealand.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee is back on track, winning her opening match in the ITF Waikato-Bays Under 18s Championships yesterday at the Waikato Tennis Centre in East Hamilton, New Zealand.

Lee, who fell short in her title bids in the singles and doubles events in the Auckland ITF Indoor Championships 2016 after losing her semifinal matches last weekend, competed in her second tournament in New Zealand with only a day to recover and marched into the third round of another ITF Juniors ranking competition.

The 14-year-old player was pitted against Natasa Ilic of Australia and won after only two sets, 6-1, 6-3. Ilic earned the right to face Lee in the second round after the former got a victory (via walkover) versus New Zealand's Ana Ta-

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MP United eases past Shirley's

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club hammered Shirley's FC, 8-0, during the third and last game in Week 3 of the boys U14 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

The win was only MP United's first this season as it lost to Paire and TanHoldings last month. Shirley's, on the other hand, absorbed its third loss in as many matches.

Rintaro Miyawaki was unstoppable in MP United's lopsided victory as he scored five goals, including a hat trick in the second half. His two other goals were made in succession, as he nailed his first in the 13th and the second three minutes later. MP United went up by 3 at halftime, 3-0, as Skyler Poon scored in the 19th minute.

In the second half, Chris Kim gave MP United its first goal in the final 35 minutes of play, while Miyawaki delivered the second, and Eun Syu Hahn scored the third. Miyawaki then completed MP United's domination of Shirley's after dropping back-to-back goals.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United Football Club's Rintaro Miyawaki kicks the ball during the first half of their boys U14 division game against Shirley's FC in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

Duenas Compound gains share of lead

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Duenas Compound's Edwin Santos, left, and Travis Eubanks, third right, challenge the shot of Saipan Apparel's Pete Lizama, while Matt Duenas, right, looks on during the second quarter of their game in the MIBF outdoor caging at the San Antonio court last Monday night.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Duenas Compound is on a roll, getting its third straight win after downing Saipan Apparel, 75-64, in the second game in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League last Monday night.

With its 3-0 record, Duenas Compound joined idle Ol'Aces on top of the team standings in the 11-squad field. Saipan Apparel dropped to third place with its 2-1 mark just behind Ace Hardware (2-0).

Coming into the game with similar undefeated records, Duenas Compound and Saipan Apparel engaged in a neck-and-neck battle in the first half. The match was still close after the third period with Saipan Apparel down by just 5, 48-53, but Duenas Compound gained some cushion in the fourth en route to the double-digit

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